

# PEN AND PENCIL

AN ILLUSTRATED FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

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SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1855.

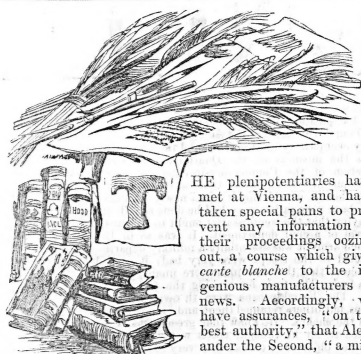
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THE SECRETS OF THE LODGE, BY E. H. WEHNERT.—FROM THE BRITISH INSTITUTION.

## PEN AND PENCIL.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 1855.



THE plenipotentiaries have met at Vienna, and have taken special pains to prevent any information of their proceedings oozing out, a course which gives carte blanche to the ingenious manufacturers of news. Accordingly, we have assurances, "on the best authority," that Alexander the Second, "a mild man," is all for peace, that

Prussia is about to join the Conference, and has a new design to accommodate matters; that Austria is backing out; and that France and England are proposing abated terms to Russia. That is one set of reports; and there is another set the exact opposite, maintained with equal confidence. The public acts of the several governments incline rather to be warlike than otherwise. Alexander, who is "mild," and has not only the mild blue eyes of Nicholas but the benevolent aspect of the Prussian Frederick William, promises to carry out the rule of Peter, of Catherine, of Alexander, and of Nicholas, and conveying fond messages from his father to the Guards, addresses those soldiers in warlike phrases trumpet-tongued. Prussia is still trying to persuade the German States to arm against all the other powers, the Allies as well as Russia, and not to let the Federal forces go beyond German territory; while Austria is strongly combating this view, urging that neutrality is no longer tolerable, that the troops must be employed beyond the territories of the Confederation, and Austria is repeating these peremptory representations on the 8th instant, six days after the death of Nicholas. As to the Western Powers, there is no sign that they have abated their demands or relaxed their exertions. A few days will probably bring us real news from Vienna, but in the absence of news, peace cannot be safely anticipated.

The Roebuck Committee proceeds, but not rapidly; and there is, as yet, no intelligible attempt to give the examinations a connected course, or to stick to one part of the evidence. The consequence is an exceedingly scattered collection of real evidence mingled with gossip, anecdotes, and talkee-talkie. Among the witnesses examined this week have been Lord Cardigan, the Duke of Cambridge, several other officers, and the masters of some of the transports. The change of total confusion is more than made. The stories that commissariat officers refused to perform necessary duties because letters were signed with some slight irregularity in the placing of the name, that cargoes of hay and clothing were conveyed backwards and forwards, because some adherence to form induced officers not to receive things so deplorably wanted in the Crimea, and that particular officers distinguished themselves in this martinet obstructiveness, like the now immortal Christie, head of the transport department at Balaklava—prove too perfectly true. Ships were lost by being detained outside on a lee shore, because their own size, or the confusion within, prevented their entrance; while confusion in the want of hands prevented the passing forward of stocks, and induced the commandant to convert the transport ships into stationary magazines!

In Parliament the principal business is still military. The Ordnance Estimates are followed by the Commissariat Estimates, and the Commons have given authority for military estimates amounting to £400,000,000. The usual opportunities of "supply" night have not been missed; "irregularities" have been spiced with particulars from the Crimea; but on the whole nothing new has been brought out, and the faithful Commons have really approved nothing. What tools they would be for a crafty tyrant who should know how to cajole and drive them!

But some other subjects have been discussed, especially Lord John's absence at Vienna, while Downing Street, harassed by deputations and despatches for the Colonies, fumes because the Colonial Secretary is absent, "doing" the Plenipotentiary at Vienna. Sir John Pakington becomes tribune for the injured colonies; and Lord Derby is scandalized because Lord John's wife and baby joined the party at Vienna—implying a lengthened absence. There is a good deal of humbug in all these "Conservative" complaints. We have no doubt that Sir George Grey can answer deputations at least as well as Lord John; and all important Colonial questions still pending are Cabinet questions not to be settled by a single Minister. The Cape of Good Hope is not going to be overrun with Kaffirs, who have another Sir George Grey to encounter at Graham's Town, while the Dutch Republicans on the Vaal river, and the Colonists at Natal, are scourging them in the rear for various predatory out-

rages. And while the gold licence row in the Victoria diggings has been put down, the surviving difficulty about the admission of discharged convicts from Van Diemen's Land, which the Victoria settlers resent, is one of the Cabinet questions to which we have referred.

The Spanish Government is following the example of our Richard the Second in the Tyler row, and our Palmerston in the Roebuck row, and saying to the revolutionists of Cuba, we will be your leader. General Concha is meeting the threatened insurrection by offering free institutions; and that is the sole remaining hope for the Spanish retention of the island. There are three difficulties to be anticipated. The colonists may have been too far exasperated to be reconciled by this concession—though the popularity of Valdez ought to make Concha hopeful. The slave-dealers may fear liberal representative institutions—though the United States deal in slaves; and the "Spanish party," whose interests are bound up in the tyranny and corruption under which the bureaucratic interests survive, may help to defeat their own Government. It is a difficult thing for a corrupt Government to recover its stand suddenly by leaping off the ground of corruption to that of firm constitution: the rotten ground sometimes gives way under them, and they fall, not forward, but backward.



## PARLIAMENT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

The Earl of LUCAN read a copy of correspondence between himself and the Adjutant-General, in which the latter desired to grant a court-martial in his case, and he urged his claim for one; and he now moved for copies of those papers. After some slight objection, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH expressing a hope that the case would not be drawn into a precedent, it was understood that the papers would be granted.

The second reading of the bill for abolishing the restriction which renders it illegal for more than three Secretaries and Under-Secretaries of State to sit in the House of Commons at the same time, furnished the Earl GREY with the opportunity of discussing the consolidation of the war department. The changes which had taken place, he insisted, are far from being sufficient for the want. One result of deficient management is, needless increase of expenditure; the votes keeping in advance of the original estimates. He now found £1,000,000 granted for new works at home, in addition to £560,000 granted last year—the bulk of the new works to consist of new barracks and fortifications. He approved of the concentration of the forces, as necessary for training. The police can keep order, while railways facilitate the transport of large bodies of men to different parts of the country; while the direction of troops in large bodies facilitated their training in Britain. But he objected to anticipating the necessity for fortifications or earthworks, which could easily be created when needed by the hands that we possess in the country. And any plan for the redistribution of our forces during peace, following after enormous grants during the forty years for fortifications or barracks, ought to be received with distrust and considered with deliberation for the charge for barracks, at an extraordinary rate. It would be £71 per man per year for a comfortable cottage with two or three rooms could be built for £70.

Lord GREY insisted that the principle of physical sciences applied to railroads and to the economical provisions for the labour on railroads, should be applied to fortifications and the lodging of the troops.—Lord PASSEMER admitted much of what his noble friend had said, but insisted that Government was moving in the right direction, and assured the House that the alterations should be carried out with deliberation, and after proper inquiry. An engineer officer of considerable eminence and reputation was entrusted with a mission to Belgium, to inspect the barracks there, before constructing the barracks at Aldershot. All the army will there be, by turns, instructed in camp life. Before carrying out these improvements, however, a plan would be matured for uniting all the civil departments of the army under the superintendence and management of the War Department, and he hoped to lay that plan before the House.—The Earl of MALMESBURY complained of the defective machinery existing for obtaining departmental information in that House.—Earl FITZWILLIAM wanted to know whether the country was to receive a more military character during peace; to which Earl GRANVILLE replied, No; but measures would only be taken to render the army more efficient.—The EARL of ELLENBOROUGH suggested a uniform system of police; and the EARL of ELMESBURY retained the policy of not reducing one military establishment during peace. Here the debate closed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The committee of supply was preceded by questions and motions of the usual kind. A long conversation on the Ordnance maps, in which Lord ELCHO wished the survey to be extended to Scotland, with maps on a large scale.—Mr. GLADSTONE objected to the Ordnance map in which different parts of the survey were persevered in the six-inch scale at the largest.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON called attention to the state of the Colonial Department, with the colonial minister embarrassed

by two incompatible situations—at Vienna and in Downing Street—while the business of the colonies is left in a state of uncertainty. A new governor at the Cape will find a disturbed state of the frontier; the condition of Victoria is critical, and the Convict Prevention Bill is likely to reopen discord in that colony. The Australian Constitution Bills are hung up for an indefinite period. Such a neglect is likely to produce great dissatisfaction in the minds of the colonies.—Lord PALMERSTON denied that colonial affairs are neglected, or that the absence of Lord John is unprecedented. Secretaries of state have before been absent for a time longer than he has been required for Lord John's "mission," and, in the meanwhile, all colonial questions are decided by Sir George Grey, with the concurrence of his colleagues.—Mr. ANDELEY repeated the complaints with more particulars from the state of the colonies, and the observation that their sensitive feeling is likely to be irritated at this refusal of their officers to support the Government in its foreign war.—Sir GEORGE GREY showed equally in detail that the practical government of the colonies has not been suspended by the absence of Lord John. He had sent despatches, pointing out to the local authorities at the Cape the measures to be taken for the defence of the frontier. He showed that the disturbances in Victoria had been exaggerated. The deputation from Newfoundland was not the result of a private intimation to demand the recall of the governor, and a visit of such a kind as no secretary of state could have received; and that the Australian Constitution Bills had not been delayed.—Mr. LOWE touched upon an observation by Sir John Pakington, and entered a strong protest against the ideas of making compacts with the colonies. Concessions should be made to the colonies on the merits of the case, and not as a purchase for any consideration to be yielded by the pressure from Mr. JOHN MACDONALD, that the Vienna conference could lead to no practical result, and a deprecation from Mr. J. J. PHILLIMORE of returns to transportation, closed the conversation.

The House then went into committee of supply on the commissariat estimates, which were explained by Mr. PENN. The vote last year was £990,000; this year, from a private amount—£2,400,000. This arose, partly, from the manner of feeding the troops within the United Kingdom as well as abroad. The whole sum is now paid in lieu of leaving the soldier to find part of his keep—the morning and evening meal—out of his pay; and £4d. is stopped out of the pay towards the expense. The embodied militia has also been added to troops at home; and £1,200,000 represents the cost for the army in the Crimea.—Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS observed that this brought the sum voted for war purposes this year up to within a few pounds of £4,000,000.—In reply to remarks by Sir FRANCIS BAKING, Mr. WILSON stated that the commissariat chest fund of £1,200,000 is retained as an available balance to meet the various requirements which come upon the commissariat from time to time; it will be left in the hands of the Treasury.—The responsibility of the expenditure remaining in the war department.—Lord SEYMOUR suggested a greater simplicity of accounts, unentangled with other departments.—Mr. LAING insisted upon the same improvement and a supply of provisions by contract. Several other of the standing grievances in the East—the bad selection of provisions, superabundance of salt meats, deficiency of transport, want of porter, &c.,—formed the subjects of remark; but the votes were agreed to, and the House resumed.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Earl GRANVILLE moved the third reading of the Exchequer Bills (£17,183,000), and stated that a correspondence for which Lord Montagu had inquired was partly of a private nature.—Lord MONTAGU admitted that public inconvenience might be created by the production of the papers, but he proposed that correspondence between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Bank of England in a form that precluded its publication. He pointed out that the present bill imposed a tax upon the country without observation or explanation. Ordinarily only £16,000,000 is required; but £1,783,000 is added to the Exchequer bills by way of meeting claims upon the Government; and this by Mr. GELFINGHAM, who had objected to provide for the expenses of the war by way of loan! He calculated that not less than £50,820,000 would be required this year, towards the expenses occasioned by the war; and he contended that the question of meeting those expenses could not be settled upon abstract principles, or by a prejudgment against the policy of a loan.—Earl GRANVILLE explained that the re-issue of Exchequer Bills is not to a greater amount than has been required for the last forty years; and he denied that Mr. Gladstone had laid it down as an inflexible rule never to have recourse to a loan.—The Earl of DERBY supported the plan of terminable annuities, not increasing the permanent debt; but not impracticably attempting to provide for the expenses within the year.—The debate was somewhat prolonged by the Duke of ARKLYLL and the Earl of GREY, but it terminated without result, the bill being read a third time and passed.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

In reply to Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, that it is not the practice in the departments of the Ordnance, Admiralty, Works, Post-office, or Customs to stop the day's pay on fast days.

Mr. HERWOOD moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of marriage with a deceased wife's sister, or a deceased wife's niece—marriages prohibited by the existing law, although sanctioned by the dispensations of the Pope. Of the marriage with a deceased wife's niece, instances frequently occur in Germany; and notwithstanding the prohibition, not fewer than 12,000 such marriages have taken place in this country since 1835. In that year an Act was passed—Lord Lyndhurst's Act—to legalize the marriage of the Duke of Beaufort with his deceased wife's sister, but it prohibited all widowers who marry, marry, sisters of their wives. There is a very general feeling in the country in favour of the measure.

The clergy of the Roman Catholic Church do not support the prohibition. No such law prevails in the United States or in Germany; and Duisburg, near Düsseldorf, is now used as a kind of Greta Green for marriages with deceased wives' sisters. The cost of such marriages is about £30 a piece.

SIR FREDERICK THESIGER met the measure by a recapitulation of the strong arguments against it; that the House of Lords have thrown out a similar bill, that it is only desired by a minority of the population; that in Ireland there is no wish for the measure; that the present bill did not extend to Scotland—showing a sense of weakness in the promoter; that it professed to defend persons who had broken the law, and would introduce great confusion into the rights of persons who observe the law. Sir Frederick Thesiger then said that he was not in favour of the measure, and that is, that the prohibitions of Leviticus apply *a fortiori* to Christians; and that the bill, therefore, was in the face of divine law.—The measure was supported by Mr. BOWYER, who spoke on Roman Catholic points; by Mr. EDWARD BALE, Mr. MONCKTON MILNES, Mr. SPOONER, Mr. JOHN BALL, and Mr. CORDELL. It was opposed by Mr. ROBT. PHILLIMORE, Mr. HENRY DUNDAS, Mr. JOHN RUSSELL, Mr. ALFRED RUSSELL, and Mr. HENRY CORNELL. The bill was then put, and carried by a majority of 100. The prohibition, degrees altogether, and marry his grandmother like a man." Admiral WALCOTT, who said that the measure would "unhinge society;" and Mr. WALPOLE. In the course of his speech Mr. DRUMMOND quoted, first, as a warning example for the British House of Commons, the Romanist maxim—"*Papa potest legem Dei mutare*." But being called to account for saying that, he admitted that he was not in favour of the Bill, and that he admitted that the Pope was not infallible. He then said that he admitted authoritatively was—"*Papa non potest legem Dei mutare, nisi causis*."—Lord PALMERSTON considered the question settled by the principle, "*Nil prout leges sine moribus*"—that is, laws are of no avail unless the moral feeling of the community is in unison with them. Such manners already exist, and their technical prohibition only occasions misery to the poor, and does not touch the lower end, and the middle classes. The House affirmed the motion by 87 to 55, and leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. JOHN BALL moved:—"That it is expedient that more effectual measures be adopted to improve the education of pauper children in Ireland." And he drew attention to the state of 40,000 pauper children deserted by their natural protectors during the famine, now probably diminished to 30,000. In many unions there is no Roman Catholic teacher; and he contended for the introduction of industrial teaching generally. He reckoned that it would cost 10s. a-head (per annum).—"The Education Commissioners," replied Mr. HOBSMAN, "reported that a considerable augmentation of workhouse agricultural schools had taken place." The Board of National Education, Poor-law Commissioners, and local guardians, all agreed in promoting industrial teaching amongst the poor population; and it would not be desirable to interfere with individual and local efforts in the process. The motion was carried by a majority of 80 to 10. Mr. WRIGHTSON obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law by which ministers vacate seats on accepting office.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The greater part of the day sitting was occupied in committee on Mr. Sotheron's Friendly Societies Bill, which Sir GEORGE GREY stated in reply to Mr. POULETT SCROPE, to be a very useful measure, and to be sanctioned with Government approval; while Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. APSLEY PELLATT expressed their satisfaction with the bill on behalf of their constituents.

## THE ARMY INQUIRY.

Resuming where we left off in our last number, we continue to give the substance of the additional evidence brought before the Committee of Inquiry on the state of the army in the east, avoiding as much as possible repetition.

On March 9, at twelve o'clock noon, the inquiry was resumed. All the members of committee were present, and the space set apart for the public was as crowded as on the preceding days.

MR. JAMES CLAY was called. He had charge of the ship *Empress*, which was employed to convey Lord Raglan's horses to the Crimea in March, 1854. He objected to the way in which ships for the conveyance of horses were fitted up at Woolwich, and the result was that the *Empress* was fitted up according to the Hull plan. The horses were packed in the hold, and the cargo was so stowed that the harbour had dead camels, sheep, and a great deal of oil floating about in it, and the landing-place was composed of a few old trusses of hay, to prevent people from falling into the water. The camp was in a very bad state; many of the men were in rags, and the horses were in a very bad way. The horses were in a very bad charge; "they had not a gallop in them." He saw several of the men hunting for vermin on their shirts; notwithstanding, they seemed "pretty jolly and full of pluck." The condition of the French troops was quite a contrast to ours. They had bands playing, and the men were in good spirits. He also had a good effect on the English troops in the valley below; they were delighted with the French music. He heard of the dreadful state in which the sick men were on board the *Monarch*. He was told 20 men died on one day, and 100 on another. He saw the men who were dying, and some of them dropped off and were thrown overboard. When at Constantinople he saw the wretched mule that had of coaling steamers. It was under the management of Admiral Boxer, and was the subject of general complaint. While at Constantinople, he saw the horses of the British troops, and he was told that many of men he could only get them by instalments of 25 or 30 tons a day. Admiral Boxer not being the most agreeable man in the world, he did not make any complaint to him. He was a very temperate man, and used to give strange orders. He strongly recommended that the horses should be put in boxes for the horses. His representations were all pleasantly received, but without any good results. According to the Government plan, the horses were cooped up in stalls 2 feet 3 inches wide, so that it was not possible for them to lie down, whatever the weather. He was told that the horses were in a very bad way, and he shipped in this way did not; so those shipped according to the Hull plan, which afforded them plenty of room and good bedding. In 1000 horses shipped for St. Petersburg and Riga there was not a case of death. The *Empress* cost the Government £6000, and the horses were carried at a rate of 25 tons per horse, at 10 tons burden, cost £2.5s. per ton a month; and the *Altair*, of about 100 tons, at £2.10s. per ton a month. Captain Christie, who had charge of the transport service at Balaklava, had too much to do, and Mr. LAYTON asked witness if the horses at their own tails or by the tail. He said that the horses were in a very bad way, and necessary. The remainder of his evidence on the tails and tailless horses and other matters, contains nothing which is not already known to our readers. We pass on therefore to the evidence of

vision of the army in the Crimea, where he arrived on November 28, and remained till January 23. The hospital tents were in a most filthy state. The dead were buried in their blankets, the graves repined and the blankets stolen. The authorities, however, interfered, and caused the blankets to be removed before the bodies were thrown into the cauldrons for burning in the Crimea. Our hospital tents were not by any means as abominably filthy as the Turkish tents, which stood the storm of November 14. The hospital marnees were so crowded that he could never get between any two men sufficient room to kneel down to afford them the opportunity of kneeling in prayer. He never saw any of the English women in Balaklava. He never heard that they were in a wretched state. He thought Mr. Blackwood, the head of the commissariat of the division, did his duty exceedingly well. He never saw Lord Raglan in his life. He never saw the Quartermaster-General, Sir James Scarlett, in his official capacity; but he did not know them, so that they might have been present, though he was not aware of it. He had applied for a marquee in which to administer the communion to the soldiers, but could not obtain one. He heard that 2000 or 3000 great coats had been carried to the hospital, but he never saw them, nor the people of Balaklava at a time when they were very much needed.

Before the committee adjourned, General PEEL, adverting to a statement made by General Bentinck in the course of his evidence, to the effect that certain clothing for the Scots Fusiliers, made by Messrs. Pearce, had been condemned in London, said General Bentinck had made a mistake, and that he would afterwards correct his evidence in that respect. He hoped the reporters would not forget to mention the fact.

The Committee re-assembled on March 12, at the usual

four.

His ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, was the first to succumb. He joined the army in the East at Scutari on May 15, 1855, and was immediately sent to the front. He was with the men of his division at Scutari, in perfect health; in fact as well as when they left England. The men were well supplied with food; but the commissariat operations were not in a very satisfactory state. The commissariat Force consisted of 10,000 men, very inadequately supplied. His Royal Highness, however, soon recognised some 12 or 14 miles of the country around Varna and should have imagined that there was an opportunity of furnishing the horses with food—indeed that they might have got a large supply of hay and straw from the country, which was only a mile from the water, though still on high ground. While the British horses were well supplied with barley, but had not a sufficient quantity of hay. Sickness broke out on July 17. There was a deficiency of medical aid. He thought each regiment ought to have a medical officer, but he was not allowed to do so. When the cholera broke out, many of them were "laid up" by it. The camp was removed six miles from Alfladya, but the sickness increased by the removal. He lost a great many guards; he thought that the Guards were not fit to be sent to the front. He attributed the mortality among the Guards to the malarial fever—a favourite beverage of the regiments of the line in England, and one to which they had been accustomed. The reason assigned for not supplying the Guards with porter was, that it was not one of the articles of the medical department. The Guards thought advisable to make exceptions in favour of any particular regiment. He could not say positively that there was enough porter in Constantinople to supply the whole army, but he presumed there was judging from the large quantities sent out. It was not till the 20th of August that the army moved on. They began to embark at Balaklava on Sept. 14, at about half past 7 or 8 in the morning, and his division was landed about 1 o'clock. It rained during the whole night. The men had not tents, nor had the officers; in fact nobody had anything, he thought, but a blanket. The men were not covered by the tents, and without tents from Sept. 14 to Oct. 14. They could not have carried their tents, as they were in constant anticipation of an attack. After the battle of Alma, his impression was that the wounded men got into the field-hospitals the same evening, and that the ambulances were sent to the front. The Grenadier and Coldstreams were under bark in the open air close to the river, with ample facilities for obtaining water. The Fusiliers, the 93rd, and 42nd were in houses on the opposite side. Only five, being 93rd, 7th, 42nd, 93rd, and 42nd, were sent to the front on 16 miles. It was his opinion an insufficient number. Respecting the attempts to distribute the houses in Balaklava among the troops, he believed there were certain numbers "told off" for certain departments, but the generality, he thought, were not "told off." The Duke of Cambridge was not with him, but he was sent to him (the Duke of Cambridge) when he was ill, but he did not take it, and he did not know who occupied it afterwards. The

lick in the hospital tents might have been taken to it. While out the First Division were never a day without rations, with the exception of being a little short of rum; but they always had bread and meat, and the commissariat was never short of anything. The supply was good now. He attributed this not only to the care and circumspection of the officers, but to the energy and activity of the commissariat. He was very well served by the commissariat, and he thought that the body attached to the division was particularly good men. They were young, and at first, without wanting in experience; but they were extremely zealous and attentive, and when he made known to them the difficulties of the department his wants and wishes, they carried them out to the letter. He thought that the commissariat was doing very well for the forms common to the department, and in their not being suited to the operations of the field. He thought they were extremely inconvenient. They seemed to consist in throwing difficulties in the way, instead of making everything easy. He would give the commissariat an instance. He had a division of six hundred men, and a klava, his division moved on to Aladyn, and he remained a few days behind; and being anxious to have his men properly rationed, he sent an officer on to the commissariat with instructions to that effect, and to bring back the rations. He waited for the commissariat sent back, in place of rations, a printed form. This caused a delay of some hours; and instead of sending the return back, and saying it was incorrect, or that the return must be altered to entitle the men to rations, they sent no rations at all. On the next day he went to him, and he said that the commissariat officer was wrong and the military officer right, and he directed him to go at once with the animals and bring the rations back; and so they got them at last, though he thought they ought, in spite of the official form and law, to have got these rations at once. He thought that the commissariat officer was very much to be blamed for this, and that there was no mistake in the return at all. He thought these matters of form were quite preposterous, but that the absurdity was considerably shaken off by the time they got further into the Crimea. He thought that the commissariat officer was not to be taken much notice of the matter. He attributed the general ill-feeding of the troops and forage of the horses to the heads of the commissariat department. Had nothing to complain of as regarded his own commissariat, who, in pursuance of his instructions, always did what he directed him to do. He thought that he was fortunate in his commissariat. They were young men, and had their business to learn; but they set themselves to the work with such zeal that they at once overcame all difficulties. He thought that the commissariat officer was not to be taken much notice of, and the only reason he could conceive why it was not better

vided was that it was not an ordinary soldier's ration. The troops were very much provoked. About this there could not be two opinions. Much of the illness and fatigue was owing to the want of roads and conveyances. His baggage animals had no supplies of food; in consequence, one morning at the end of October, he was obliged to shoot 24 ammunition ponies, owing to their being starved. He was obliged to shoot 24 ponies, and it happened if they had had food enough to keep them alive, he would not account for the deficiency of food; the ponies got all which the commissariat supplied. The hospital beds were as comfortable as they could make them under the circumstances, though the men had not more than one blanket each. His division had no horses, and he was obliged to go on foot, and he thought no one did not like it. It did not agree with him at all. The ambulance, in his opinion, were a great deal too heavy, and placing the wounded men in them, on the shelf within, was very painful; like pushing them into a coffin. After the battle of the Alma, the Young Men of the Crimea, and the English, on a spot previously occupied by the Russians, and the cholera broke out. It is the business of the Quarter-master General, under the direction of the Commander-in-chief, to choose the site for encampment. Commissary-General Fidler never visited his division; though, considering it was a newly organized force, it would be very desirable that he should do so. The Assistant Quarter-master in saying that the commissariat ought to be constituted a military department, was quite right. It was so in India, and in the French army it was essentially a military department. The supplies to the troops were very bad; it was chiefly in consequence of the want of roads and conveyances, and the want of fuel. The tools for making the trenches were shockingly bad. The bearskin-caps were too heavy, and some of the troops, but others retained them, and found them more convenient than the shakos. He knew that green coffee was issued. He regretted it, for he thought cocoa would have been much better. The Commissary-General was a very good man, much preferred to the others.

The examination of his royal highness having been concluded, the committee rose in complimentary deference to his royal highness on his expected departure; but the noble duke, bowing, retained his seat, discussed a sandwich and a glass of sherry, and remained listening attentively to the evidence of the next witness.

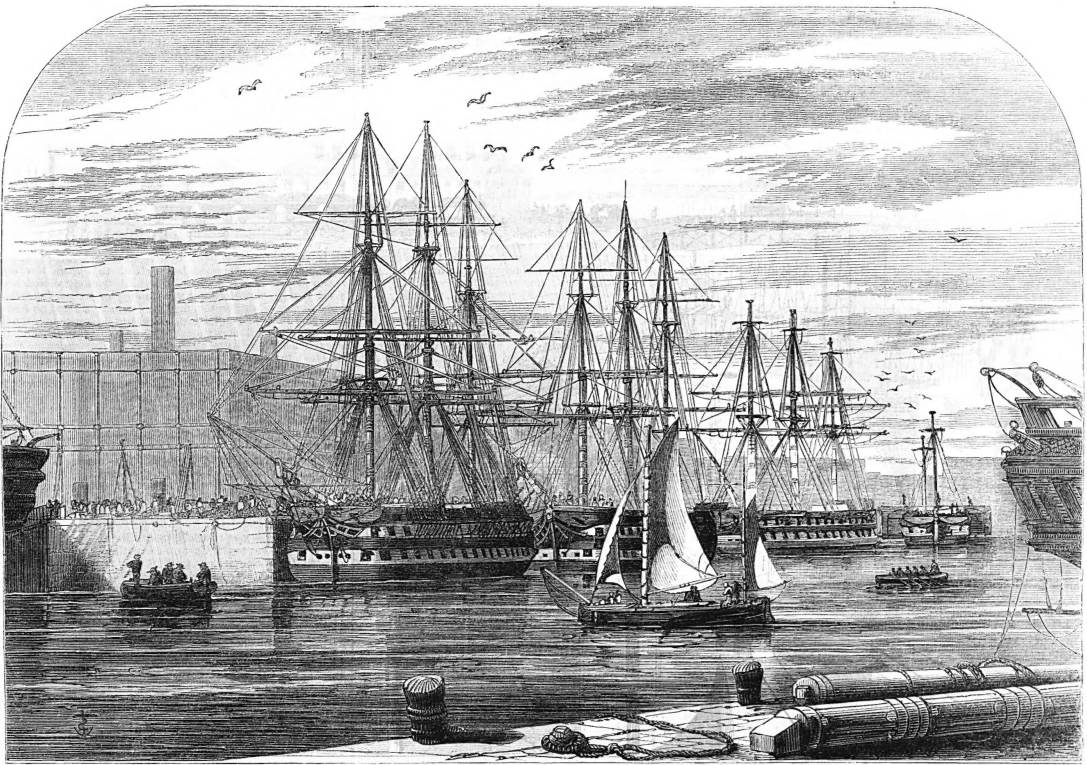
Colonel Wilson, of the Coldstream Guards, was the first witness to the march. He went to the East on the 29th of February, 1854. The men landed at Scutari on April 29, and remained till June. At that time they were in perfect health, and well provided with food. At Varna they were first encamped a mile from the town. They moved to Alaislaya July 4, and remained till the 29th by the name of the "Black Line." On the 30th they moved to the south of the lake. Diarrhoea and cholera broke out soon after their arrival. At Varna the men had cooking kettles, but for the most part they were thrown away on landing in the Crimea, and the men cooked in their tin cans. They roasted their coffee in the tin cans, and for that reason it was so bitter. They made it up with the tent hammer. There were no means of grinding coffee supplied. After they went to Sebastopol it was from the nature of the work impossible for the soldiers to make any arrangements for cooking. The men were not allowed to leave the trenches on duty three nights, and might be able to do down only one of the fourth. If they came off duty in the trenches at 6 in the morning they might be able to lie down till 10; they would then be called on some working party. On that night they might, perhaps, be allowed to go to bed. On the next day they would be called out to go on picket duty, and they were on that duty 24 hours at a time, including the march to and fro. Their food in the trenches was salt pork and rum. In the trenches the men had no means of cooking. They generally contrived to get some food from the commissariat, but they were not allowed. When they landed at Varna the men had their knapsacks in their hands, as it is dangerous to wear them in the boats when disembarking. On the wharf some French soldiers were handling them, and he heard one of them say, "*Duenez! este lord!*" He then asked the English soldier what it meant, and he told him. He liked the sit of them very much. But, altogether, he did not think the difference in weight between the English knapsack and the French was very much. The French soldier carries with him more essentials on a march than the English, as he carried part of his baggage. The English soldier carried a tin of condensed milk. The article was lighter, which was the great thing in war. If tents could not be carried by the commissariat, it was better the men should carry them at all risks. In the Crimea he had to carry his own baggage. He suffered very much; at the end of a march he was almost exhausted. He was not a soldier, but a doctor, and died of exhaustion from carrying his baggage.

Captain BLANLEY was then examined by the chairman.—There was no commissary at Gallipoli at the arrival of the troops, and no preparations were made for them. There had tents, but he did not know who supplied them. The soldiers were fairly supplied with food, but sometimes the rations were rather short. The commissary would send 770 rations, for instance, for 800 men; but that arose from his not knowing the strength of the regiment. It was, he presumed, the duty of the quartermaster to inform the commissary of the strength of the regiment. When he went to the Crimea, he found the men very ragged and half-starved.

MARCH 13.—The Committee was occupied chiefly in the examination of witnesses of no particular note, but who were practically engaged in the various departments connected with the artillery and transport service. It was expected that either the Duke of Newcastle or Lord Cardigan would have been examined, and in consequence of that expectation there was the usual interest manifested by the public. Mr. Layard took the chair in the absence of Mr. Roebuck.

off. Layard took the camp in the usual manner, and he joined his troop at Varna. The Bulgarians there had sufficient supplies for their men and horses. The number of troops in company amounted to 189, and six or eight died while in Bulgaria. He could not obtain sufficient supplies of medicines, which were carried in wooden cases, covered with cow's hide, on pack-saddles and ponies. The cases were three or six inches thick, and were supposed to carry on the backs of the men. The amount of ammunition he carried was 223 guns, and his three troops were attached to the light cavalry brigade commanded by Lord Cardigan. The erection of huts and stables, he thought, saved the men and horses. He lost 70 of 170 horses, and their deaths were caused by the exertion in the march, the heat of the sun, and the want of food. He fell off so rapidly from the excessive labour that the harness ceased to fit them.

Mr. Gnowe was the next witness called. He went out as an amateur diver in the Crimea on September 25. For the first two months he continued with the second division. He lives in the town of Trent for some time, and she had a quantity of mules, hay, and bran on board. She went away to Constantinople with a quantity of barley and bran on board, because there were no means for landing it. There were great difficulties in landing. He took a quantity of platforms from Malta, and they were ordered to be taken ashore in the paddle-boat boats; but they remained in them for nine days, when the ship was required to go away. The captain refused to go away without these boats, and at last they were unloaded. Repeated remonstrances were made to have them

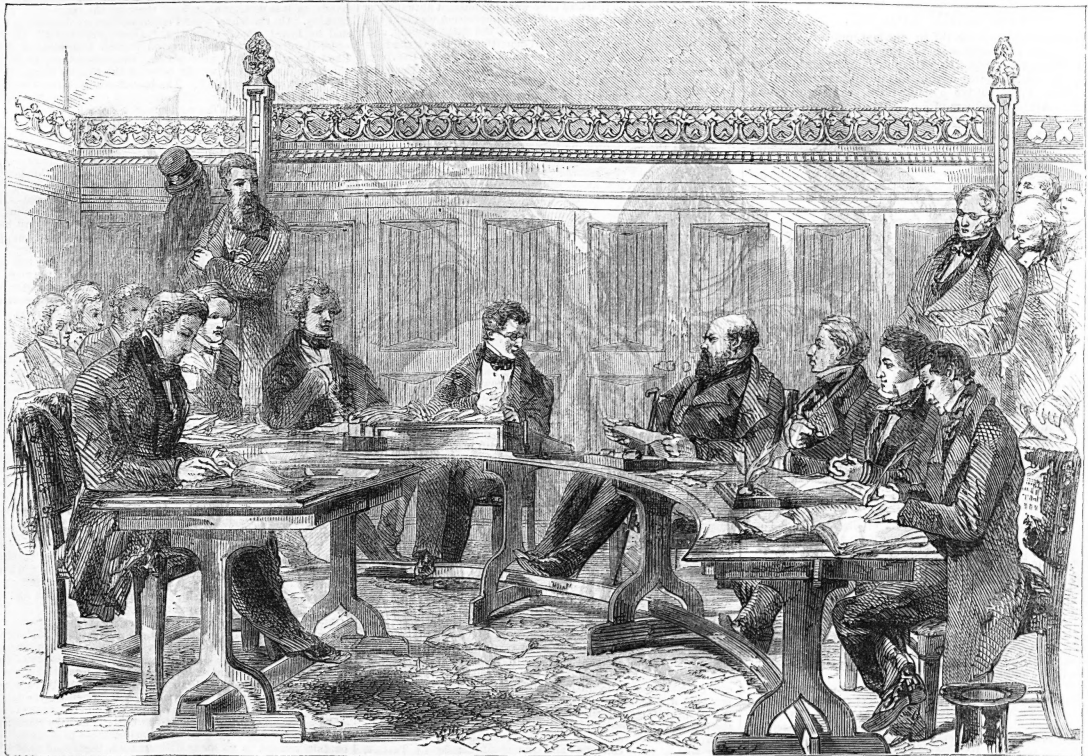


FITTING OUT OF THE BALTIC FLEET.

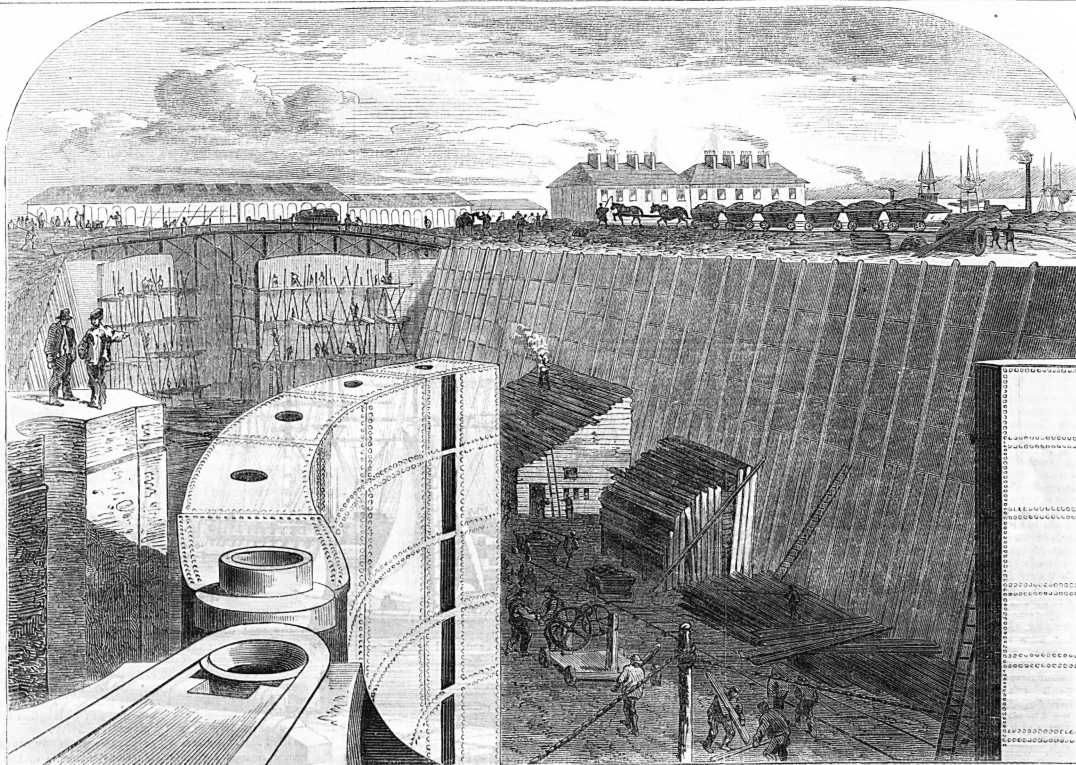
unloaded to Captain Christie, but the answer was, that there were no men to be had to unload them. The horses at the camp at that time were suffering much from the want of hay. The quay at Balaklava was crowded with all kinds of stores. At that time there were bags of bran exposed to the weather, and parts of them

were injured. He saw no officer on the quay engaged in keeping order, but outside the wharf he saw two mounted orderlies attempting to keep order. There were no conveniences whatever for landing. The main street of Balaklava was knee-deep in mud, and for a portion of the day it was very much crowded.

Captain KELLICK, late commander of the *Himalaya*, was next examined. The *Himalaya* was a screw vessel of 3,550 tons, and 750 horse power. She belonged to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, but was sold to the Government, as he heard, at £130,000. The vessel first proceeded from South-



COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF THE ARMY BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.—EXAMINATION OF THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE.



NEW VICTORIA DOCKS. (See page 92.)

ampten to Plymouth, where, on the 18th of February, she embarked the 33rd Regiment, part of the Rifle Brigade, and 200 Sappers and Miners, and proceeded with them to Malta. Having landed them the ship proceeded on the postal service to Alexandria, and brought thence the mails and passengers for Southampton;

but, on arrival at Malta, Admiral Stuart desired the cargo to be discharged, as the vessel was required for the Government service. The agent of the company agreed with the passengers to forward them to England, most of them overland. Could not say whether the Government paid those expenses. He then took

on board the 33rd and 41st Regiments, with some other troops, and proceeded to Gallipoli, where Sir G. Brown gave orders that they should go on to the Bosphorus, and the troops were landed at Scutari. The ship returned to England empty, and he then went to Cork and embarked the 5th Dragon Guards.



COSSACKS PLUNDERING A FARM.

The *Himalaya* took the horses of the ambulance corps to the Crimea. The men of that corps were very inefficient—old men and pensioners, and much addicted to drinking. There were about 400 horses belonging to the corps. The *Himalaya* also took about 650 sacks of charcoal from Constantinople. Balaklava was much watered by the army, but when he arrived, Balaklava Captain Christie would not receive it, and he took it back to Constantinople again. He offered to land it by his own boats and with his own crew, but it was refused. The burial-ground had become very offensive, and it was not till he was in the harbour. The men were dug too shallowly, he buried some of the sailors of the *Himalaya* there, and paid some sailors half-a-crown each to dig the graves deeper. The official floating in the harbour could easily have been removed. He would have made a requisition to the authorities for the removal of the man, with 100 men from her crew he would have undertaken to clean out the harbour and the town in seven days. Before the *Himalaya* left for England he applied to be superseded on account of ill health. He came home in her as far as Malta. They had 1,000 sick on board; too many for the commandant. Lieutenant-Colonel SPARKES of the 88th Regiment said he took out 1200 men, but many died in action, and a larger number of cholera, and the severity of the climate. Sometimes the men were in trenches 24 or 26 hours. The boots which were supplied to the men were of good quality, but they were not large enough. When he left he thought the regiment was tolerably well supplied with clothing for the winter; but at that time they had been receiving more salt meat than fresh. Lime juice had been served out. The hospital was very full when they arrived; but afterwards additional horses were provided for the sick. He believed that the number of medical men attached to the regiment was sufficient. The tents were old. He had heard of the men eating their ration raw, but such a thing had never come to his personal knowledge.

Sergeant TROTTER, DAWSON of the Grenadier Guards was then called.—He had lost his left arm, and went out in June and joined his regiment in Bulgaria. It was very hot, and disease had broken out when he arrived. The tents were very close during the night, and men would faint on coming into the tent after being out. The tents remained in the same position on the ground, and the wards were taken up and put down in the same place, unless there was a special order to the contrary. They had fresh meat in Bulgaria, but the vegetables were raw. The coffee supplied to the men was given out in a green state. They did not get any porter at that time. When the bread was first served out it was a little gritty and generally sour. When the men went down to Varna to embark they were in a very low state. They then proceeded to the Crimea, on arriving at which the men were in good spirits. He was wounded at Inkerman, as were many others of his comrades. They were out of the ship the same night. He did not believe that any of the wounded lay on the field all night. While they were encamped there was no fault to find with the commissary, except in the matter of green coffee. After they got up to the front, he had fresh meat three times a week, but the commissary became exhausted, and they had nothing but salt meat. Tea was easy to make, but the coffee was difficult; and after they ground it themselves, it lost all its taste, and was not like coffee at all. They took up their food already cooked to the trenches, and the commissary was very much annoyed. He was put into an ambulance-wagon. These wagons were very inconvenient. While he was being conveyed, he was obliged to lean on one side, and hold tightly by the right hand, in order that his wounded shoulder might not strike on the other side. He frequently slept on the ground during the night, and was in the Crimea. Many of the men fell ill in consequence. It would have been a great advantage to have the small tents carried by the French in such cases. The men would never object to carry them, because they would so materially lead to their comfort. When he landed at Scutari, he was taken to the hospital, where he remained 27 days, and received great kindness. He came home in the *Talavera*, in which very good accommodation was provided. The voyage home from Scutari occupied 63 days. He received a musket wound in the shoulder, and his right arm was damaged the same evening. He had been in the French camp, but he did not notice how the French prepared their coffee. The clothing of the men was very bad in the Crimea, especially the shoes. When he left, the clothing was all in rags.

MARCH 14.—The Committee assembled at the usual hour, when Colonel KINLOCK was called, and said he had suggested to Lord Cardigan and Lord Raglan that he might be obtained in Syria for the use of the army in the East; but was told that the plan was a very good one, but a very expensive one. Three months after that, however, he was sent for by the Treasury, and received orders to proceed to Spain for the purpose of collecting an adequate supply of those animals. He succeeded in procuring 200 or 224. He had previously estimated them at £20 each. He embarked the first 300 of them at Barcelona, 14 days after he had purchased them. The others remained there from September until the middle of December.

The Earl of CARDIGAN was then called. He said he commanded the Light Brigade Cavalry, and landed at Scutari on the 23rd of May. Two portions of his regiment had arrived by that time, and the others arrived while he was there. Arrangements had been made in Kulula barracks for the reception of his troops. He went to Varna on the 3rd of June, and his regiment encamped immediately. He encamped at various places afterwards, and when the siege of Silistria was raised, he had to move to see which way the Russians had gone, for the purpose of reporting to Lord Raglan. His brigade was very healthy then—probably, indeed, the most healthy portion of the army. There were four regiments of cavalry in his brigade, making 1200 men; and a troop of horse artillery. They were all encamped together at the regulated distances laid down in the books. Plenty of room was provided for the horses at all seasons, and they were never crowded, and twice sickness broke out, he could not attribute it to overcrowding. His men received fresh meat and bread, and when bread was out they were supplied with biscuits. The bread was baked on the ground by the contractor, where the encampment was. He made complaints that the bread was good, and by the direction of the head-quarters, the bread was put right. On returning to Varna, to proceed to the Crimea, the health of his men was not so good. He embarked with his brigade on board the *Himalaya* for the Crimea. Great facilities were afforded for embarkation; they disembarked at Old Fort in the boats of men-of-war. No French boats were used for that purpose. On arriving at Old Fort the weather was very bad. The directions were, that the men should go on shore without tents. He was sent on by order of Lord Raglan to cut off a portion of Russian cavalry proceeding from the direction of Odessa, but he heard nothing of the matter, and returned to Old Fort very late at night, and went off again very early the following morning. They arrived at Balaklava about the 26th of September. After the battle of the Almas they remained on the field two days to bury the dead, and then marched on to Balaklava. He was very much annoyed to get his horses, and occasionally he got hay; for there were several stacks about the country. The commissary pointed out where the stacks were to be found, and he then sent out men to bring them in. Soon after the capture of Balaklava, the brigade began to experience a want of forage. The chief reason of that deficiency was

because of the difficulties experienced in bringing it up. After the charge at Balaklava 400 horses had to be shot, and 260 were shot in that action. In the month of November the sickness of his men increased very much, but up to that time he did not hear of any deficiencies in the rations. The hospital tents attached to the brigade were not used, but the small adapted for the purpose. The horses suffered very much during the month of November from exposure. He never knew of a deficiency of medical attendance in the light brigade. The commissary was perfectly satisfactory to him, the commissary was very intelligent and zealous. He left the Crimea on the 10th of December, at which time the clothing was very bad, the clothes were all in rags. A body of persons had been previously sent to Constantinople to purchase warm clothing for the men; but when he arrived at Constantinople he found them still in the same state, and he was disappointed in effecting their object. He presumed that it was the first supposed that the army was not going to remain in the Crimea during the winter; but as soon as that course was determined upon, it was resolved to make an attempt to obtain a necessary supply of warm clothing. The weather at that time was not very cold, but it was necessary wet night and day. The men's valises were left behind, in order to relieve the horses of the weight. The valises were of a diminished weight; they were much lighter than formerly, many articles having been removed. There were about four regiments of cavalry in the division of the light brigade in the Crimea, previous to the battle of the Almas. He had noticed the filthy state of the harbour at Balaklava, but no attempt was made to cleanse it. It might have been effected in two days if proper arrangements had been made. One vessel came to Balaklava with the food, and the horses and wagons went with them. There were no means of carrying chopped straw. The horses could have lived on chopped straw and barley as well as hay. He had seen the Turkish cavalry, and had the command of a regiment. They subsisted upon hay and by grazing. It might not be prudent to depend upon that, but from England the cavalry, when a long campaign was anticipated, but he believed that nobody expected that the present would be a long campaign. He never heard of a large quantity of hay being sent on fire by the Russians just below the Inkerman Road. The officers' horses were not in the best state, but they were well cared for at their own expense. Very few officers' horses were lost. He believed that the cavalry horses at Chobham were picked at night under sheds. No quays were provided at Balaklava for landing the horses. He remembered seeing some of the horses fall into the sea in consequence of the improper manner in which they were embarked. He had heard that a large quantity of tarquin was offered by a contractor for covering the horses, but he believed the offer was not accepted. When he left the Crimea he supposed there were about 300 horses fit for duty, but they could not mount. The original number of the light brigade was 1250, but there were not more than 800 when he left.

Mr. MACDONALD, the gentleman who had rendered such essential service to the army and the public in the distribution of the *Times* fund at Scutari and the Crimea, was the next witness examined. He said that before he went out he saw the Duke of Newcastle and Dr. Andrew Smith, and he was very much impressed with the opinion that such a fund as that raised by the *Times* would be of very little advantage to the country. Reports had reached this country that great want existed among the sick and wounded at Scutari; but the Duke of Newcastle and Dr. Andrew Smith doubted those reports, and he thought that those wants were did exist, they would have by that time ceased. He went, however, to Scutari, where he found two hospitals—the general and the barrack hospital. A Turkish hulk and one of our own transports were also engaged to convey the sick and wounded. There were no returns of the number of patients in each hospital, and all sorts of statistics appeared to be kept secret. Dr. Monzie was at the head of the medical department at Scutari at that time, and all the hospitals were under his charge. He had a very inadequate staff until the arrival of the French, who brought with them a medical staff, in November. The general hospital being originally intended as a hospital, presented a better appearance than the other. It was quieter, and there were bedssteads. So far the hospitals were well provided for. There was intended to keep that hospital for severe cases, and the general accommodation in the barrack hospital rendered it the place to which the severest cases went at last. He could not tell how many cases there were in the two hospitals, as there were no records kept. Of the whole number of patients, he should say that one-third were on bedssteads, and the rest were lying on the floor, and the clothing was the exception of want of beds, the patients were well provided for. There was sufficient medical relief and stores in that hospital to contribute to the comforts of the patients; it was a less unwholesome establishment than the other. He thought the orderly system in the service very objectionable; the men were not given any special training for the office. They ate, drank, and slept in the wards; and if there were pestilence, they frequently became victims to it. With regard to the barrack hospital, he found that small provisions had been sent, converting it into a hospital at all. There were wards, the flooring of the ward was in a bad state, and the patients were placed in situations where it was impossible that they could obtain the amount of warmth necessary for their complaints. That hospital was in such a state that there was very little hope for patients becoming convalescent at the usual time. In the barrack, or supplemental hospital, he should say there were from 1,500 to 1,800 patients at the time of his arrival. There were about 2,800 patients of all descriptions in the hospitals at the time of his arrival. That was before the battle of Inkerman. He was there also after the battle of Inkerman. After the arrival of the fresh patients, the hospitals were greatly overcrowded. The hospitals became more comfortable in some respects, for the ladies and nurses had arrived, and had filled up those gaps in the hospital which were so severely felt before. Still there was little to be said in commendation. The things of which there were cheerful and hopeful, but on his second visit they were desponding, and on wet days they wrapped themselves in blankets and were buried in silence. The purveying department was not warranted the same. The first purveyor who was sent out was Mr. Wain, a person upwards of twenty years of age, who was examined by a walk from the general to the barrack hospital, a distance of a quarter of a mile. He had two assistants and two boys, a most inefficient staff. During witness's visit, Lord Stratford made one short visit to the hospital. He believed the only person who took any real interest in the matter was Mr. Calvert, as the Dardanelles. He (Mr. Macdonald) arrived at Constantinople with large supplies of money to be applied to the promotion of the comforts of the sick. Most of the things he supplied were bought at Constantinople, with the exception of the tea, which was sent out from England. The things of which there was a deficiency in the hospital were tea, arrow-root, sugar, stout, port wine, marmalade, and a variety of other things. No language could describe the deplorable state of the poor fellows who came down to the hospital without. They were almost without clothing frequently, without bed clothes, and articles for personal cleanliness, and sometimes without medicines. Four hours was the average time of disembarking the men and laying them in their beds; sometimes it was five hours. The barrack hospital was immediately on the side of the water, and the general hospital about a quarter of a mile away. No proper

means of conveyance had been provided by the authorities for the conveyance of the wounded men, and the stretchers were of a very uncomfortable character, and not at all fitted for the purpose. Sometimes it happened that in bad weather the poor fellows were taken to the hospitals without any covering, the rain pouring down upon them. Some of the men who had been put on board at the Crimea came down to Constantinople without shoes, or with such shoes as one saw upon beggars in this country. Their shirts were thrown away with utter disgust at their filthiness, or torn into shreds. Sometimes they arrived with sores at all, while others wore the coats of comrades who had died on the passage. It had not been for the supplies which he was the means of affording, the poor fellows must have gone without. During all this time ample supplies could have been obtained from Constantinople by the authorities, for there was no deficiency of labour in Turkey. He made his own purchases for the most part in Constantinople. No clothing was offered to the poor people, but it was necessary that a requisition should be made to the purveyor through the medical officer. In the event of such a requisition not being met by the purveyor it was generally taken to Miss Nightingale, who generally used to obtain some means of supplying it. There was no washing during the first five weeks after their arrival in the East. The patients' clothes were put under their beds, covered not only with vermin, but with discharges of wounds and mags. There were no means of washing the hospital floors. Miss Nightingale made a great change in these matters as soon as she arrived, and one of the first things she asked him for was 200 hand scrubbers, and means for cleansing. There was a capital laundry, but it was filled with chopped straw until the town was in a state of insupportable stench. No arrangement was made for the laundry, and the department was under the direction of the purveyor. The witness handed in a list of the articles which he had been the means of distributing through "The *Times* Fund." The state of the water in the harbour of Balaklava was disgusting in the extreme. Unlike the water of the Euxine, the water of which was black, the water in the harbour was grey and green. In fact it was a great cesspool. There was a terrible effluvia from the burial grounds, but that met one in every part of the Crimea; at least as far as our position was concerned. He returned to Scutari in February, and found great improvements. No arrangements had been made for hospitals previous to the arrival of the English armies, but the French had, previous to their armies being sent out, provided hospitals which, in their general arrangements, were as good as hospitals in London or Paris. There was a great deal of submission and resignation on the part of the patients, none of whom were ever heard complain.

## THE WAR.

From the seat of war, this week, there are scarcely any news. The most important is in a despatch from Admiral Bruat, dated Kamiesch, 7th of March, announcing the arrival of the news of the death of the Emperor Nicholas.

For some days rockets (*fusées*) have been thrown into the town, and have set fire to the houses. Two Russian officers had deserted and sought refuge in the English lines. The siege operations are carried on with activity.

On the 14th inst. from Marseilles, the telegraph announces—The Ganges brings accounts from Constantinople of the 5th inst. M. Benedetti, Chargé d'Affaires of France, gave a grand dinner in honour of M. Schouvaloff, the new ambassador of the Empire in Paris. The last adviser of the Emperor was M. Schouvaloff. The Russians were fortifying in a formidable manner, the valley of Inkerman.

The latest account from Constantinople relates of the French attack that our allies did take the redoubts by storm, but then found themselves exposed to a murderous fire from the batteries, and even from the guns of some Russian vessels anchored in the port. The position was not tenable, and having destroyed the redoubts they had taken they withdrew with about 400 men *hors de combat*, of which number 100 were killed.

The following is an extract from a letter, dated Constantinople, March 1, referring to the same attack:—

It was known that the Russians were erecting important works of counter-attack near the Malakhoff Tower, towards which the French were gradually withdrawing. It was resolved to destroy them. A portion of the Third Division, under orders of General Monnet, advanced during the night of the 23rd, and attacked the Russians in their intrenchments. The Russians, much superior in numbers, made a valiant defence; but, notwithstanding their resistance and the fire of the batteries and vessels in the port which bore upon the battle ground, they were driven out of their positions and the works destroyed. Among those killed there were seven or eight officers, and some twenty officers wounded. One of our men killed himself had the thumb of his right hand shot off, and received a shot in his arm. The loss of the Russians, which must have been considerable, could not be ascertained.

The Russians were throwing up formidable works of defence at various points, and they had sunk two more ships at the entrance to the port of Sebastopol. They feared an assault, and were making every preparation to meet it. It was said that they were establishing a battery of heavy mortars at Kanura, from which they hoped to throw shells into Balaklava.

*Le Moniteur de la Flotte*, in extracts from letters from Eupatoria, speaks of:—

The Turkish soldiers as tall strong men, well clothed, and well equipped. Almost all of them have muskets with percussion locks, the barrels of which have flints. Every soldier has a bayonet, a shovel or pickaxe to work at the fortifications. When the Russians came to visit us on the 17th, there were not near as many guns mounted as there are now. Their attack has had the advantage of showing the garrison their weak points. When our small detachment of Martini first took possession of Eupatoria, they found there a number of camels and arabs (small carts of the country). A short time ago, when it was wished to transport some material, these animals and carts were looked for in vain. After some little time it was, however, found that the Tartars of the town had taken the carts, and the Tartars, not to be behind us, had burnt the arabs to warm themselves, and cook their victuals.

An M.D., in a letter dated from before Sebastopol, Feb. 20, suggests that there must surely be some mistake in the date of the following letter, and that it possibly ought to have been October 17.

## MEDICAL DEPARTMENT ORDER.

The Inspector General of Hospitals is sorry to find from recent inquiries that itch, scurvy, and ulcers, and great personal filth, prevail among the men of the different regiments for want of due attention on the part of the medical officers in making the periodical inspection of the men in their tents, as required by





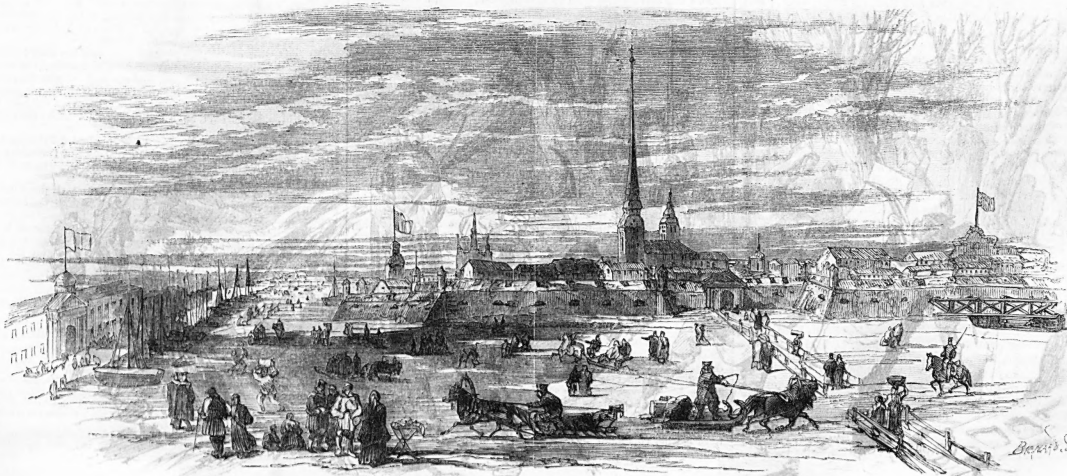
BATTLE OF EUPATORIA.—REFULSE OF THE RUSSIANS.



BATTLE OF EUPATORIA.—TURKS LEVELLING THE GREEK CEMETERY.



SEBASTOPOL.—COLUMN OF ATTACK WAITING THE WORD OF COMMAND.



ST. PETERSBURG, FROM THE NEVA.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH. (See page 92.)

pendent says that the plot had been going on for 11 months. If this be true, the secret was wonderfully well kept. Pinto was the founder and director of the Lyceum club, where the conspirators met, under pretext of playing at cards and billiards, and there a quantity of papers were seized, written in cipher, the key to which had been discovered. By railway a number of negroes were to be taken to the Havannah, and the same means of conveyance was to serve for pirates expected to land. The disposition of the troops was excellent. It was thought that the filibusters, unaware of the failure of their confederates, would attempt a landing. One account states their numbers at 2000 or 3000.

The Government has received confidential communications from General Concha with respect to the state of the island of Cuba, which is evidently such as to inspire the Captain-General with considerable uneasiness, although he confidently trusts to surmount all difficulties, especially if the Ministers and the Cortes attend to his suggestions with respect to the line of colonial policy to be observed. He considers the relative position of Spain and Cuba to be very similar to that of England and Canada in 1837, and wishes the example of England to be followed, and concessions to be made to the colony. Cuba, in his opinion, should send deputies to the Cortes. Care should be taken not to alarm the slaveowners by talk of emancipation. Such a measure would inevitably throw the island into the arms of the United States. To declare the slave trade piracy would also be a most dangerous step, but General Concha has his very utmost exertions, and will continue to do so, to prevent the traffic. The island is evidently not to be governed as it has been hitherto; and a garrison of 20,000 men will be found insufficient to preserve it to Spain, if the inhabitants are not conciliated by liberal legislation. Cuba has greatly changed within the last few years, and there can be little doubt that General Concha begins to see the difference in the state of the public mind now, and during his former residence there as Captain-General. The late conspiracy was very extensive, and dissatisfaction is wide-spread.

At a sitting of the Cortes of the 8th, the proposition of Senors Lasala and Valero, demanding that a single Chamber should be established by the new Constitution, was rejected by 115 votes to 101. Senor Luzziariga, Minister for Foreign Affairs, gave explanation as to the conspiracy, and stated he had broken out in Cuba but for the energy of General Concha. The minister then stated the course the Government would adopt in regard to the treaties prohibiting the slave traffic, which, in the minister's opinion, was prejudicial to the highest interests of the proprietors in Cuba. On the motion of Senor Ologanza, the Cortes unanimously declared that they had heard with the greatest satisfaction the explanations given by Senor Luzziariga in the name of the Government.

The army in the Havannah is to be augmented to 30,000 men.

#### UNITED STATES AND CALIFORNIA.

From the UNITED STATES we have this week a draft of the NEW TRAFFIC BILL, which has been appended to the General Appropriation Bill, and passed to be enacted, and is now pending in the Senate. The following is a copy of the important parts of the bill:—

SECT. 1. And be it enacted, that the following articles be transferred to schedule C, viz, flax, raw silk, with or without the gum, not being doubled, twisted, or advanced in manufactures in any way; jute, manilla, and sisal grass, coir, and other vegetable substances unmanufactured, not otherwise provided for; lac spiritus, lac sulphur, lamp black, Prussian blue, articles not in a crude state used in dyeing or tanning, not otherwise provided for; brimstone crude in bulk, cream of tartar, extracts of indigo, &c., to H. H. Smith.

SECT.—And be it further enacted, that all goods, wares, and merchandise which shall be imported from foreign countries, for the purpose of being sold in public stores on the 1st day of July aforesaid, shall be subject, on entry thereof for consumption, to no other duty than if the same had been imported respectively after that day.

If this bill becomes a law, brandies, distilled liquors, cordials, &c., will pay an *ad valorem* duty of from 80 to 100 per cent.; wines, either snuff, cut glass, menses, preserved fruits, &c., from 32 to 40 per cent.; iron, cotton fabrics, woollen fabrics, carpets, ale, clothing, coal, cutlery, furniture, glass tumblers (not cut), hats, hemp, jewellery, laces, linen manufactures, molasses, paper, pepper, plated ware, silk manufactures, soap, sugar, raw tobacco, wares of brass, iron, copper, zinc, &c., will pay 24 per cent. *ad valorem*, instead of 30 per cent. as heretofore; unmanufactured wool will pay 8 per cent.; blankets and flannels 20 per cent.; and books, engravings, periodicals, &c., hitherto paying 10 per cent., will pay 8 per cent. It is remarkable that this important move in favour of free trade was brought about by the votes of the Massachusetts' Delegation, hitherto the staunchest advocates of protection.

The Senate has had the Fugitive Slave Law again before them, and passed a bill intended to obviate the recent Wisconsin decision declaring the law unconstitutional, and laws of some of the northern States to prevent its execution. The effect of the bill is to remove the cause entirely from the jurisdiction of the State Courts, and place it within the control of the Federal Government. The bill was passed by a large majority, but not without a great show of fight from the Anti-Slavery members. The debate lasted from eleven o'clock in the morning till after midnight, during which time there was very plain talk on both sides. It is now pending before the House.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Communications from San Francisco, dated Jan. 31, inform us that the state legislature was then in session. The most notable measure in progress on act to authorize married men to convey real estate in their own names. This novel bill provides that these lucky ladies can "convey joint or separate property in the absence" of their lords, provided the unfortunate "husband has been absent from the State one year prior to such conveyance." If this law will not bind husbands to their wives' apron-strings, it will, at all events, have the effect of preventing long "absence." The promoter must be a confirmed old bachelor, who has determined never "to pass the Rubicon," or an advocate of the "rights of the strong-minded."

January has been ripe in crime of all sorts—murders, duels, robberies, burglaries, assaults with deadly weapons, larceny, rape, and other minor offences, such as forgeries, petty larceny,

and the like, far too numerous to mention; and the month has been particularly distinguished by a recurrence to Lynch law in various parts of the country. During the month nine men have been put to death by the "people;" one at Los Angeles, one at Sonora, one at Mariposa, one at Iowa Hill, one at Valencio, one at Salmon Creek, and three at the same time at Turner's Ferry, on the river San Joaquin. The last mentioned were guilty of cattle-stealing, a crime which has been very common of late.

San Francisco has not escaped its share of crime. There were five murders, besides thirty other cases of crime of a serious nature, and all within the month.

A most horrible accident occurred at Sacramento the other day by the blowing up of one of the river steamers plying between Marysville and that city, in consequence of her racing against an opposition boat. With regret it is stated that an English gentleman, a Mr. Nicholson, from Manchester, lately arrived in this country, is among the sufferers. Report says he has had his leg broken in three places.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

THE SOCIETY AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—The students of University College, on the evening of March 13, entertained a large and distinguished body of gentlemen known to take an interest in education, and the pursuits of science and literature. The intention of the committee of students who organized the *soirée* was to bring together the representatives of the various affiliated colleges which prepare students for taking degrees in the University of London. University and King's Colleges are the principal of these; but there are others worthy of mention—for example, the independent St. New College, St. John's Wood; Manchester College; Spring Hill College, Birmingham; Chesham College; Steyne College; and Hackney College. The company assembled in the magnificent library of University College. The centre tables of the room were covered with photographs, bronzes, and other works of art. The walls of the room were decorated with the instrumentalists, and Weiss and Hamilton Graham were the principal vocalists, added to the attractions of the evening. But the great and abiding charm to most of the visitors was the happiness which evidently filled the hearts of their young hosts. Many a veteran in the ranks of literature and science felt his pulse quickened as he looked on these young faces, radiant with hope, and trusting confidently in the promises of a bright future. Amongst the company were Lord Brougham, who was the lion of the evening, and looked vigorous and exceeding well; Sir Edward Ryan, Dr. Williams, Mr. Smith, Mr. T. J. P. Jones, Mr. Newman, Edwin Field, Esq., Professor Heaviside, Dr. Carpenter, Rev. Professor Browne (King's), Professor Rymer Jones (King's), and numerous other persons distinguished in the scientific world. The rooms were crowded to excess. The students of the college have a right to congratulate themselves on a measure which is calculated to produce most beneficial effects.

THE JUDICIAL SOCIETY held their first meeting in the rooms of the Royal Society of Literature, St. Martin's Place, on the evening of March 13. The lecture was taken by the Solicitor-General, Sir Richard Bethell. Among the members present were Mr. Bacon, Q.C. (Mr. Campbell, Q.C.; Mr. T. M. Chambers, M.P.; Professor Mayne, Mr. W. D. Lewis, Mr. Harris Prendergast, Mr. C. Hall, Mr. Lewin, Mr. Maquenne, Mr. Jebb, Mr. Hallett.

Sir Robert Peel, Junior Lord of the Treasury, was re-elected on Wednesday last for the borough of Tamworth. In the course of his spirited address, he said, "No settlement of the Eastern question will be satisfactory unless Poland and Hungary are restored." Lord Monck was returned a few days ago for Portsmouth, by a majority of 1,005 votes over Mr. Serjeant Gaskell.

#### NAPIER'S LETTER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR—I have no reason to be dissatisfied with your remarks on the services of the Baltic fleet, which have been done them justice, and I am sure officers and men will be pleased.

As to myself, you observe, "If we understand the case rightly, Sir Charles Napier's objection turned much more on the lateness of the season and the uncertainty of the weather than on any engineering difficulties."

As I feel certain you wish to act fairly and justly, I will furnish you with the means of understanding the case rightly.

I send you a chart of Swaborg and Helsingfors and a plan of their fortifications, showing the adjacent islands and sunken rocks. Show them to any naval officer, young or old (and you must know many), and ask him if it is possible in winter to place buoys and beacons on those rocks and shoals; to conduct a fleet alongside the batteries of Swaborg, having neither gunboats nor mortarboats to cover the approach of the vessels and boats; to place the buoys on the sunken rocks, all of which are within range of the enemy's batteries? It will require several days for this operation, and they will be under fire night and day. The Russians themselves could not navigate these seas without beacons, and they are all removed.

During the time the process of buoying is going on the fleet must lie at anchor among the outer rocks.

Imagine to yourself, Sir, a south-west gale coming on (and in the winter without warning), and judge what would become of your fleet and your mortarboats. A great number of the former would be driven on the rocks, and the latter would either be swamped or obliged to take refuge in the enemy's harbour.

You must not compare such an operation to the prosecution of ordinary commercial enterprises.

I served with Sir Smith on his attempt on Bonaparte in November, 1805. He did not meet difficulties and forestall contingencies, and he lost all his boats, and very nearly lost his ships. Nelson had not those difficulties to contend with either at the Nile or Copenhagen. At the former his enemy was at anchor in an open roadstead in August, and at the latter in the month of April, he had a safe harbour to lie in to make his arrangements. No gales of wind could affect either his ships or boats, he could choose his day—as the wise men at the Admiralty told me to do in the month of October—but I will engage not one of them would have found the day had they been in the same position.

Lord Exmouth attacked Algiers in the middle of summer, there were neither rocks nor shoals there. He did not capture it, and I doubt whether he would have tried it again. At Acro, the weather

was fine and no difficulties, and, had the Egyptians held out, notwithstanding the explosion, its capture was doubtful, and with Russian garrison impossible.

Sir James Saunderson, with his superior forces, was beat off at Algiers, and lost a ship; and Admiral Dundas had no reason to be satisfied with his attack at Sebastopol.

Will you tell me why Lord Nelson and Lord Collingwood did not attack Toulon or Cadix? Neither of them was so strong as Swaborg or Cronstadt.

Why did not Lord Howe, Lord Bridport, and Lord St. Vincent attack Brest, l'Orient, Rochefort, &c.? Because they knew they would have been defeated.

Why did the French admiral and myself refuse to attack Swaborg? Because we had not means, and because the narrow entrance was blocked up. Had it been opened (even without gunboats) the allied flags would have been flying on the inner road of Swaborg. You say, sir, "Supposing the enterprise to be otherwise favourable, the mere lateness of the season does not appear a sufficient objection."

A ship attack on a strong fortress is at all times difficult; add to that the intricacy of the navigation and bad weather, and it becomes impossible.

You say, sir, I have no case to bring before the House of Commons.

My complaint was that the Admiralty had perverted, intentionally perverted, my reports and changed their whole meaning, and used language to drive me to do what was perfectly impossible, persevering in their perversion, notwithstanding all my explanations.

These letters I could not produce without injury to the service, but they might have been examined by a secret committee, who could have reported whether Sir James Graham or Sir Charles Napier had told the truth. I'll answer for it, Sir James Graham would not like to have his hands untied, and I tell him the day will come when they will be untied, and he and his Board will be covered with confusion.

I produced no papers, sir; nor did Mr. Malins utter one word that could injure the public service.

The list of vessels going to the Baltic, published the other day, will do more harm than all that was said in the debate.

Sir James Graham stated in the House that when I was called upon to specify the ships that were not in a state of discipline I said, "I do so." This is a subterfuge. I wrote the following answer to the question:—

I beg to observe that when I stated that some of the ships of the line were perfectly unfit to go into action, I alluded to those which had lately arrived from England and had not been in the accompanying state of discipline, and still consider, are unfit to fight; and I beg to remind your Lordships that the fleet was newly manned and had only been two months from England, and though every officer and crew were made more efficient by the officers in command, two months is not enough to organize a fleet. With regard to the detailed report of the state and condition of the ships not having accompanied my letter, I beg to observe that I did not conceive the reports of inspection sufficiently satisfactory to lay before their Lordships. I waited till I could send a proper report.

That requires no comment. Again, alluding to Swaborg, he said:—

If Sir Charles had adhered to his assertion made early in May, and repeated in July, that Swaborg was unassailable either by sea or by land, not one word of doubt with respect to the prudence exercised by him would have fallen from my lips.

Now, Sir, in plain English this is downright deception.

Upon the 30th of May, before I had seen Swaborg, I sent the Admiralty plans of that fortress, with the accompanying statement, "I beg to send you, for the information of their Lordships, the plans of Swaborg and Helsingfors, which appear to me unassailable by sea or land."

And on the 10th of June and 18th of July I sent my own report and Admiral Chads', and they differ very little from the report of the 26th of September.

How, then, can Sir James with truth say that I stated in May, and repeated in July, that Swaborg was unassailable by sea and land?

In May I had not seen it, and only sent the plans. In June and July I sent him detailed plans of attack, which he appears either to have lost or forgotten, and he tries to shelter his neglect under what I wrote on the 24th of July, alluding to the troops coming on to us from the Baltic. An officer of the Baltic fleet, in the course of the question, "The rendezvous must not be Baro Sound, as Bonaparte was the most likely place to be attacked." Had there been 30,000 men, instead of 10,000, we should have gone to Swaborg.

Sir James goes on to say:—

It appeared to me and my colleagues, even upon the showing of Sir Charles Napier, that it was possible, if his forces were reunited, to make the attack by naval means alone.

I never showed any thing of the sort. What I showed in June and July I showed in September, neither more nor less; an officer, who considered himself fit to manage the Queen's fleet, told the House of Commons that he and his colleagues thought it was possible to attack Swaborg by naval means alone, when a few weeks before he thought it required 200 gun-boats and 50,000 men. He stopped the French squadron and Plundergriff's ship at Kid on the 2nd of October, when he heard of the capture of Sebastopol, and on the 9th of October, when he heard it was a miserable deception, he countermanded the order. Why did he do so? He had not received my letter disapproving of his senseless scheme. It is true he told me not to attempt it if it was desperate, but that was to cover himself in the event of disaster.

His complaint against me is, that I treated the board with disrespect. How comes it that neither he nor Admiral Berkeley, in weekly communication with me, told me so? Friendly friends may must have been of mine to let me go on insulting the board at the very time they were praising me. I admit that once, and once only, I did write harshly, but I apologized to Admiral Berkeley for so doing.

After the 4th of October, when I was insulted, I did write strong letters, but they were neither insubordinate nor turbulent; they were not a bit stronger than a man of spirit ought to write when he felt his honour attacked.

As to keeping my flag up under Sir James Graham, no consideration on earth would have induced me to do it. No officer of honour and character is fit to see his hands.

I leave him now before the public, accused by me of wilfully perverting my letters and goading me to risk her Majesty's fleet.

I have been refused redress by the Admiralty and the Prime Minister, and I must trust to the generosity of the people of England till peace enables me to fully state my case.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant,  
18, Albemarle Street, March 11, 1857. CHARLES NAPIER.

#### THE FUNDS AND THE MONEY MARKET.

SINCE the fourth of the month there has been a gradual decrease in the demand for money, and a consequent fall in the rate of interest. The banks and bankers are now very "full of money," and the rates are rather easier. The rate of interest allowed for deposits, placed on call, is 4 per cent. for large sums, and 5 per cent. for small sums. The rate of discount on commercial first-class bills, of short date, is from 4 to 4½ per cent.

Some impression prevailed that the Bank of England minimum rate of interest would have been lowered this afternoon, but no change was made.

At the court of proprietors of the Bank of England, held this day, a dividend of 4 per cent. for the half-year ending the 28th Feb. last, was declared. After payment of which the rest will be reduced to £3,018,131. 4s. 10d.

The dividend warrant will be ready for delivery to the proprietors on the 7th April next.

The Consol. Market has been quiet to-day at firmer prices. Business took place at 93 for money; and 93½ to 94 for the account. The latest quotation was 93½ to 94 for time, being an improvement of ½ per cent. on the latest prices of yesterday. Exchange bills 6s. to 9s. p. m.

In the Foreign Securities an active business took place in Turkish bonds, at 80 to 80½, and they left off at 80 to 80½ being a rise of ½ per cent. A moderate amount of business was transacted in Railway Shares, and the leading lines slightly improved in value.

FRIDAY EVENING.

The Money Market has been much easier to-day; the rate for first-class bills of short date is down to 4½ per cent.

The receipt of £250,000 of gold from Australia, making about £260,000 for the present week, caused, with the arrival of satisfactory news from the Crimea, a rise of ½ per cent. in Consols. They made out 93½ to 94½, and they left off at 93½ to 94 for money, and 93½ to 94 for account.

Turkish Bonds have again advanced ½ per cent. They have been done at from 80 to 80½, and left off at 80½ to 81.

Railway shares have become stronger at a slight improvement.

The following Tables show the latest official quotations, up to the day of going to press, in the English and Foreign Funds, &c.

ENGLISH FUNDS.

Bank Stock . . . . .	shut	Long Annuities . . . . .	shut
3 p. Ct. Red. An. . . . .	93½	India Bonds, £1000 . . . . .	225
Do. for Consols An. . . . .	93½	Do. under £1000 . . . . .	11
Do. for Account . . . . .	93½	Excheq. Bills, £1000, 2½ d. 6 to 9	99
New 3 p. Ct. An. . . . .	93½	Do. £500 . . . . .	6 to 9
New 2½ p. Ct. An. . . . .	80, 79	Exchequer Bonds . . . . .	99½
3 p. Ct. An. . . . .	80, 79		

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian 5 p. Ct. . . . .	92	Mexican 3 p. Ct. . . . .	—
Belgian 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	92	Peruvian 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	70, x. d.
Do. 2½ p. Ct. . . . .	101	Do. 3 p. Ct. . . . .	—
Brazilian 5 p. Ct. . . . .	93½	Portuguese 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	—
Do. 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	93½	Do. 4 p. Ct. . . . .	—
Burgundian 5 p. Ct. . . . .	104	Russian 5 p. Ct. . . . .	97
Chilian 6 p. Ct. . . . .	104	Do. 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	87½
Do. 3 p. Ct. . . . .	—	Sardinian 5 p. Ct. . . . .	37
Danish 5 p. Ct. . . . .	—	Do. New Deferred . . . . .	184
Do. 3 p. Ct. . . . .	—	Do. Passive . . . . .	—
Dutch 2½ p. Ct. . . . .	93½	Turkish 6 p. Ct. . . . .	80½ to 81
Do. 4 p. Ct. Certif. . . . .	—	Swedish 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	—
French Rentes 4½ p. Ct. . . . .	—	Venezuela 3½ p. Ct. . . . .	22½ to 23
Do. 3 p. Ct. . . . .	—		

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account for the week ending on Saturday, March 10th, 1855.

Notes issued . . . . .	£26,911,880	Government Debt . . . . .	£11,015,100
		Other Securities . . . . .	2,984,900
		Gold Coin and Bullion . . . . .	12,911,880
		Silver Bullion . . . . .	—
	£26,911,880		£26,911,880

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital . . . . .	£14,553,000	Government Securities . . . . .	—
Reserve . . . . .	3,639,840	(including Dead Weight . . . . .	£11,542,385
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) . . . . .	4,828,237	Other Securities . . . . .	14,880,841
Other Deposits . . . . .	11,149,103	Notes . . . . .	7,944,050
Seven day and other bills . . . . .	906,730	Gold and Silver Coin . . . . .	709,610
	£35,076,919		£35,076,919

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated the 15th day of March, 1855.



THE £50,000,000 WAR EXPENDITURE.

UR war for the current year amounts to not less than £50,000,000. (This is Lord Montagu's estimate. The official estimate of purely military expenditure is not less than £40,000,000, and the old Chancellor of the Exchequer ought to know how far Treasury performances exceed Treasury estimates. The expenditure for the current year, then, greatly exceeds the military expenditure for some years during the long war, and is about half of the very highest outlay for that period. Now the country, we believe, would not grudge that amount for prosecuting a just war with Russia. The hostilities, it is true, have a tendency to injure trade, and are believed in the manufacturing districts to do so even more than they really do; nevertheless, the working classes of those districts, who are threatened with loss of wages, and already suffer severely from various abate-ments concurrently with high prices, would be quite willing to make the sacrifice. The only doubt is caused by the fear that they may spend the money and not get the due return in "vigorous war." There are reasons for believing that this fear has been true; and it will require all the public vigilance to prevent its remaining true.

The Army estimates include various items, very proper in themselves, but if we were to take stock we should have some difficulty in making the account balance. We have some millions set down for the militia. Now there is no force so constitutional as a militia, none so well recommended as a nursery for the army, but the militia is not yet complete. Some of the Scotch counties, such as that of Clackmannan, have only just enrolled their force, and several of the English counties are far below the strength, while in Ireland the force is altogether in sus-

pense. The sums allotted for the Foreign Legion lie scattered, and we cannot very well get at the total; but there is £40,000 set down as the cost of clothing, though not a man exists! The commissariat has been the object of frequent attack, but it is not so hollow as some others of the departments have proved in their results. We set down not less than five millions for transport, but it is not at all sure that we have our money's worth. In the first place, Mr. Lindsay says that our officials have been paying enormously for services not performed—paying one steam company £600,000 for transport to the East, and at the same time paying it for postal service in the further East. The secretary to the company has controverted this statement by showing a certain amount of mileage deducted; but it is well known that the sum paid to that Company comprised not only a mileage rate, but a bonus for its engaging in the service of the State, and now, in the Transport estimate, we have another bonus to purchase its fidelity. Mr. Lindsay appears to us to have the best of the controversy. Yet that is not the worst. The ships thus expensively retained ought to be kept constantly going backwards and forwards, transporting, instead of which they are detained for six weeks at a time at one port or other; and thus the nation is constantly paying demurrage on the delays of its own officers! Yet even that is not the worst. Cargoes are conveyed and not allowed to be landed: cargoes of boots and shoes, and of hay, have been conveyed to Balaklava, but Captain Christie, the commander of the transports department there, would not allow one cargo to land, because, although it was wanted there, he "had not the order!" Another order was rejected because it was signed half an inch too low! Do not these facts prove that that £50,000,000, some unascertained portion simply goes to waste? Similar charges are made against the Ordnance. Among other items are barracks to be erected, for the aggregation of troops in larger bodies, so that they may learn camp duties and brigade exercises—a very proper object; but Lord Grey has calculated the cost of erecting the barracks, and finds that it will amount to £71 per head for the number of men to be lodged; while cottages, each containing two or three rooms, can be built for £37. *A fortiori*, a single building ought to provide a given amount of lodging more cheaply, but the State contrives to do it more expensively. How much, then, of our £50,000,000 for the current year is to be expended without return?

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE QUEEN, her husband, and their family, continue in good health. The customary Court Dinners have taken place during the week; the only notable guests being the Prince of Leiningen, and the Maharajah Duleep Singh, who prolongs his stay in town. On Tuesday, the Olympic Theatre was again favoured by the royal party. Her Majesty, the Prince Consort, and four of the Royal Children, took their departure for Osborne, on Thursday morning, intending to visit the Hsahr Hospital before crossing to the Isle of Wight.

THE inflection of another of Sir James W. Hogg's very numerous family into the post of Administrator-General of Bengal has been publicly noticed as a specimen of the real old Indian patronage which created Nabobs.

THE FLOODS have distressed the provinces of Gueldres, North Brabant, and Utrecht, and where houses have been carried away. Subscriptions have been opened for the thousands of families suddenly reduced to poverty.

IN SIGHT of the Russian authorities, the smuggling of corn, provisions, spirits, increases from Deserabia into Austrian Galicia. Mr. G. MYERS, of Lanchester, consents to erect the new buildings at Alldershot, which will securely accommodate 20,000 men.

TWELVE HUNDRED HOUSEWIVES, with needles and cutlery, were taken out by the *Etna*, for the Crimean army, along with the stores of clothing.

MR. JAMES BAZZAN, builder, and Hannah, his wife, of Chipping Ongar, claim the fifth of bacon given at Dunmow in July next by Mr. Harrison Answorth, in consequence of the sudden death of Mrs. Blackwell, of Cranbrook, Kent, who, with her husband, had made a prior claim of the same customary oath and all the forms of the ceremonial will be gone through.

BLIND ISMATES OF WORKHOUSES IN IRELAND.—A return moved for by Mr. R. Keating, M.P., shows that in the various workhouses of Ireland there were recently 406 males and 762 females who were blind; of these, 3 males and 3 females were under 5 years of age; 9 males and 10 females under 5 years of age; 41 males and 100 females under 15 years of age; and 855 males and 649 females of 15 years and upwards. The number of blind inmates of workhouses is thus distributed, viz.—in Ulster, 51 males and 57 females; in Munster, 211 males and 482 females; in Leinster, 117 males and 167 females; and in Connaught, 27 males and 56 females.

A CARRIER of the letter bags for the Ovingham neighbourhood while swimming his horse across to Whittle Dean Burn, was dismounted and separated from the letter bags. The letter bags were carried rapidly into the Tyne, and would soon have been beyond recovery had not a powerful Newfoundland dog, belonging to the Rev. W. T. Shields, plunged into the current, and brought both sacks to land. To complete his salvage, he a third time leaped the flood and brought out the rider's hat. The first letter delivered after this accident, says the *Newcastle Guardian*, contained money to a considerable amount, the owner of which, in gratitude for his gallant conduct, has resolved to present the dog with a collar.

THE WHOLE OF THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON'S GUIDES claim to be sent to the Crimea. Six hundred will be despatched as an avant guard, and another 600 will follow at the Sovereign's departure.

LORD RAYNESWORTH died on the 7th, aged 81. His son who succeeded to the title was M.P. for Liverpool.

GOLD, it is believed, will be found, by further experiment, in Tasmania.

POSTAGE STAMPS have been issued in the East Indies. They are blue in colour, and of a square form. The Queen's head is in the center; on the top part of the border is the word "India," and on the bottom part are the words "Half-Anna," the value of the stamp.

ENGLISH CAPITALISTS tender to make a railway from Madrid to Lisbon, on the road to Portugal, in return for a concession of the mines of Rio Zinto.

AN ADMIRABLE ATTRACTION has been added to the Crystal Palace of a topographical model of Sebastopol and its environs, on a sufficiently large scale to convey to the visitor tolerably accurate notions of the nature of the siege ground, and the relative positions of the contending forces.

DON CARLOS quitted life at Trieste, aged 67. Since abdicating in favour of Count de Montemolin he has lived, comparatively speaking, unknown.

THE *Oesterreichische Zeitung* assumes the Viennese date since the time of Charles VI., a period of 188 years, the first-born of the Austrian house has always been a girl.

EXPERIMENTS WITH SHARP'S BREACH-LOADING RIFLES at Lord Raglan's, on Friday, resulted in one of the weapons being fired 21 times in a minute and a half, 14 times in a minute, and 40 times in five minutes and five seconds. It only failed after 200 discharges.

A MEMORIAL from Liverpool, voted by a meeting under the presidency of Mr. Robertson Gladstone, protests to the Home Secretary against fast day generally, as the result of dictation in religious matters, and as lessening the working man's profits.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL is reported to have assured a Jewish memorialist, Dr. Phillipson, of Mangelburg, of the firm intention of H. M. Government, "to persevere in their endeavours to procure for the Sultan's Jewish subjects, equally with the Christians, the advantage of equal rights and impartial administrations."

A MUSTER of 4000 GREEKS, volunteering for the Russian service in the Crimea, is declared in the military circles at Warsaw.

THE SOCIETY OF DRAMATIC ARTISTS, and that of Literary Men (*Genes de Lettres*), had been requested by Mr. E. Leclercq to accept the 5000fr. damages, which Mlle. Rachel has been condemned to pay, for refusing to play *Medea*.

THE PORT of FOLKESTONE, rescued from utter decay 15 years ago, the South Eastern Railway Company, receives such an increase, that Mr. Faulkner has paid in one day upwards of £1700 for duties on French goods alone.

THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY LITERARY SOCIETY already embraces nearly 2000 volumes, by the best English writers, through the influence of the directors, and the number is now nearly 2000 members, and the number is rapidly increasing.

THE ARRANGEMENT of Kossuth for contributing to the *Sunday Times* terminates with the present month. He will then write weekly for the *Atlas* newspaper, in which paper he has an interest.

BOTH THE MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL TRADERS are deeply the more of the blockade being raised on the Danube, as likely to favour the immediate importations of corn into Western Europe.

THE HEAD MASTERSHIP of Queen Elizabeth's schools in the Southwark district, has been conferred on the Rev. H. Hayman, Assistant Master at the Charter House.

THE MANY CHANGERS in the son of Germany and Austria hesitate to take English bank notes from strangers since the late trial of the Messrs. Spieelman. Travellers should be provided with letters of credit.

THE SARDINIAN VINYL GROWERS assert that the long continuance of cold will have effectually renovated the vines and freed them from all other maladies.

THE SWORD worn by General Jackson through all his campaigns has been officially presented and accepted by the American Senate as a memorial of his public services.

A STRONG EXPRESSION of local feeling is being aroused against the Metropolitan Railway, started some three years since to run either under, above, or alongside the sewers underground from King's Cross to Farringdon, at a very great depth, and for which powers have been granted to the Metropolitan Railway at a time, bit by bit, of the whole of the carriage-way of this vast and increasing northern outlet. A petition is to be presented to the House of Commons.

MR. LAYARD is the youngest rector on the roll of Lord Rectors of Marischal College, Aberdeen, being but 38 years of age. The Crimean inquiry at present delays his inaugural address.

THE nomination of Sir G. Comewall Lewis to the Chancellorship of the Exchequer gives a new editor to the *Edinburgh Review*, which will be placed under Mr. Henry Reeve.

THE PAPERS AND JOURNALS of Dr. KETTER, a writer on sacred subjects, are to be published by subscription for the benefit of his family.

THE *Morning Post's* fund for providing the military hospitals with Testaments has reached £144. 16s. Three thousand copies will be provided; and, as each copy is divided into nine volumes, there will be portions of the New Testament for no less than 27,000 men. The surplus copies will be circulated in the Home Establishment.

MR. P. N. FHEENY, contributor to the reporting and literary departments of the *Morning Herald* and *Standard*, has died prematurely. His memory received a fit tribute from both journals.

THE LIVERPOOL TRANSPORT BOARD have advertised for the hire of good coppered carts of from 500 to 800 tons burthen; to be employed as horse transports for four months certain, at the rate of 18s. 6d. per cart, n.m., per month.

MR. COPELEY FIELDING, the president of the Water-Colour Society, died on Saturday last at his residence at Worthing, to which place he removed some years ago from Brighton.

THE COURT PEOPLE at Berlin were in a make when Lord John Russell entered the reception-rooms, on finding that the uniform of the veteran English statesman and that of the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Hammond, were void of decorations and ribbons; whilst it was scarcely possible to find a place for another star on the front of the comparative novice, M. de Maistreuil.

PRINCE WINDISCHGRATZ has been appointed Commander-in-Chief in the Crimea, and General Ludes succeeds him in Bessarabia and Cherson. Prince Menschikoff was recalled "because the late Emperor was dissatisfied with the way in which the war was carried on, and enraged that the attack on Eupatoria had not been made before it had been so strongly fortified."

THE Pope, Fray Art. Gossu, and the Duke of Salaparuta have learned that a white marble statue of Charlemagne, by M. Levrault is about to be erected in the open space in front of the College of France.—The Pope will celebrate by a colossal statue of the Virgin Mary at Rome the triumph of the Immaculate Conception dogma. Three hundred statues are to be struck off of virgin and child, and the Glasgow Cathedral is to be spared the enormity of a stone and glass screen, and is to be refitted according to Gothic rules.—The Edinburgh people have already raised £1100 of the £1500 required for the colossal bronze statue of Professor W. Thomson, a chemist and philosopher, is said to have discovered a means of transferring the impression of natural objects to glass with minute accuracy.

Specimens of Art, both from the Vernon Gallery and the New Houses of Parliament, will be sent to the Paris Exhibition.—A Marylebone lecturer, backed by Mr. Fox, has started a theory denying the Celtic origin of our monolithic monuments.—Mr. Gilbert Scott, of London, obtained the first premium for a Gothic design for the new Hotel de Ville and Senate House at Hamburg.

—The Chapter House at Salisbury is about to be restored; two of the eight stained-glass windows, the gift of the late Bishop of Exeter, have been just placed in Ely Cathedral's front. A new fresco is also nearly complete, and is to be filled with five Scriptural illustrations.—A bas-relief, in white marble, representing Esculapius at the bedside of a patient, has just been brought over by the *Philegon*, from Cyzic, in Asia Minor, for the Museum of the Louvre.

## OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

## CURIOSITIES FROM MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

The bronze fire-dogs are from Windsor Castle, and bear the arms and monogram of Charles II. They are probably the work of an Italian artist, of the school of Bernini. The date is about 1670.

The coffee pot is an ancient Chinese work, enamelled on copper by the process called "cham-levé." It is an unusually fine and important specimen, the various enamels being most brilliant and harmonious in colour. The property of the Queen.

The silver-gilt cup, or hanap, is of German manufacture. Date about 1700.

## NEW VICTORIA DOCKS.

To those acquainted with the statistics of the trade of the Port of London, it is notorious that the existing dock accommodation is becoming, year by year, more inadequate to meet its increasing requirements. To supply this want, the Victoria Dock Company have purchased a large tract of land in Plinestow Marshes, on the Essex shore of the Thames, below Blackwall. Although commenced only in June 1853, the works have been carried on with such spirit as to approach completion. It was intended indeed to throw open the docks to shipping in June of the present year, but from present appearances, this will be scarcely practicable. The spacious basins already excavated, together with their quays and warehouses, occupy an area of more than 90 acres, an extent very far exceeding that of the East India Docks, the largest we possess at present. The marsh, as far as Gallows Reach, has moreover been purchased by the company, and will be used as occasion requires. The advantage of situation possessed by these docks are sufficiently obvious, and the immediate neighbourhood of several lines of rail, present unusual facilities for communication with town. (See page 85.)

## THE CITADEL OF ST. PETERSBURG.

Of which Peter the Great laid the foundation stone in 1703, is situated on the right bank of the Neva, where this beautiful river divides into the little Neva and the Neva properly so called. (See page 89.)

It contains the burial-place of the Imperial Family, the Church of St. Peter and Paul (with the *chapele ardente*), remarkable for its lofty steeple; the Mint, the *Kazennaya Palata*, or Crown Money Office; the prisons of state, the barracks of the garrison, and extensive salt-petre works.

In a little chapel in the fortress is kept as a relic the origin of the Russian fleet—the first boat which Peter himself built in Prussia.

On the land side the citadel is surrounded by a deep and broad fosse. Opposite the fortress, on the so-called Palace quay, are the Marble Palace (the Palace of the Grand Duke Constantine), the Hermitage, the Imperial Winter Palace, the Admiralty, and the splendid residences of the nobles.

The Exchange, the Bureau of Manufacture, the Customs, and the University, are on the opposite bank of the little Neva, on Wassy Ostroff, or William's Island.



FIRE DOG, FROM MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

## HOUSE OF PETER THE GREAT.

Not far from the Citadel of St. Petersburg is the house in which Peter lived during the foundation of his new city. It is preserved in the state in which he occupied it, and in the interior are placed the tools with which he worked as a shipbuilder. The house is in charge of an invalid guard, who shows it to strangers, and may daily be seen pacing in front of the house. (See page 93.)

## THEATRES AND MUSIC.

**HAYMARKET.**—A new comic piece in two acts called "The Secret Agent," from the pen of Mr. Stirling Coyne, but drawn from a German source, has been produced here. The plot is very intricate, but a brief sketch will give a sufficient idea of it. The duke of a small German state (Mr. Howe) has been kept in entire subjection by his mother (Mrs. Poynder), aided by the prime minister *Count Steinhausen* (Mr. Buckstone), and the grand chamberlain *Baron Staudbach* (Mr. Compton), under whose management abuses abound in the government, which have created great dissatisfaction among the people. The duke has a pretty cousin, *Ernestine* (Mrs. Caroline White), who urges him to throw off the yoke under which he is becoming very unpopular, and in order to effect this he pretends that a "secret agent" has arrived at court, who will inform him of all that occurs, and whose advice he will in future implicitly follow. Of course this announcement, backed as it is by some items of information gained from *Ernestine*, creates great dismay in the governing party, and the humour of the piece consists in the endless tours of the prime minister and chamberlain to discover the "secret agent," haunted as they are by fear of the discovery of their misdeeds. At length the duke gives a masked ball, and the two ministers are separately informed that the mysterious visitor will be present; to it the prime minister goes, disguised as a Spanish dancer, and the chamberlain as Mephistopheles. This was a capital scene; Buckstone, dressed like Senora Perea Nena, whose gestures he mimicked, created shouts of laughter, and Compton's Mephistopheles was irresistibly ludicrous; the result is, that each takes the other for the object of which he is in search. However, after a variety of plotting, the dowager duchess and her coadjutors resign, the "secret agent" departs, the duke assumes the government, and marries *Ernestine*. The piece is very well got up, and, with a little compression, will have a run.

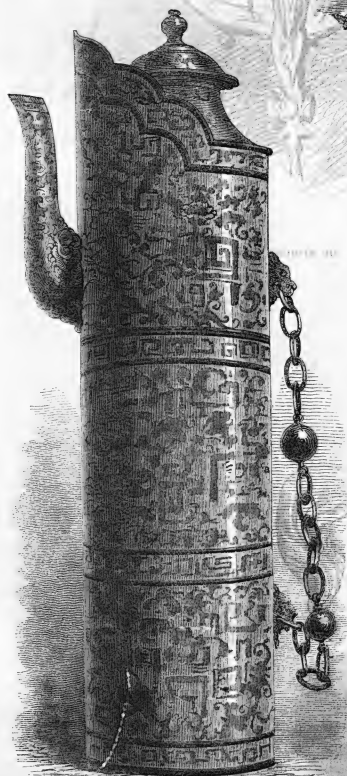
**PRINCESS.**—A new farce, called "A Game of Bones," adapted from the French by Mr. J. M. Morton, was brought out here on Monday. A certain *Marchioness* (Mrs. Winstanley) has a number of young people living in her house, one of whom, her nephew, *Julian* (Miss Daly), should become a Knight of St. John, in order that, he being vowed to celibacy, his fortune may pass to his sister, *Isabella* (Miss Leclerc), whom she has selected as a wife for her son. But the lady being called from home by business, the young people propose a game of "forties," and *Dr. Rhododendron* (Mr. Harley), who is left in charge, is persuaded not only to sanction but to join in the game. Cards soon give place to Blind-man's Buff, and the *Marchioness*, on returning home, is horror-struck at being "caught" by the grave Doctor, who is blind. The intended Knight of St. John falls in love with his cousin, *Violet* (Miss Fernan), in the course of the game, and a most opportune letter arriving with the intelligence that the *Marchioness's* son is already married, the lady with a good grace consents to their union. The piece is most carefully put upon the stage; the characters are

dressed, including powder and patches, in the fashion of the time of Louis XV.; the "game" was played with great spirit, and was completely successful.

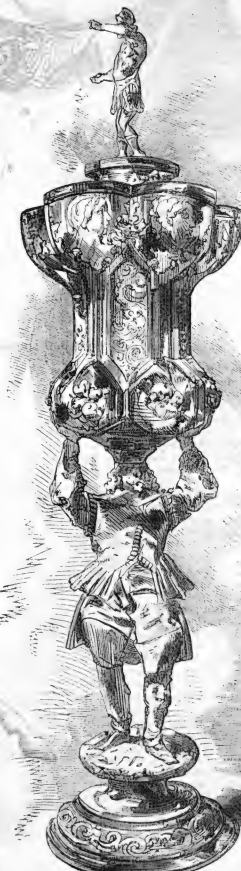
**ADELPHI.**—Mr. Webster has produced two new farces, both adaptations from the French; one called "Betty Martin," for Mrs. Keeley and Mrs. Selby; the other, "I'll tell your Wife," for Mr. Keeley and Mr. Leigh Murray. In the first Mrs. Keeley is *Betty Martin*, housekeeper to a choleric *Major Militades Mohauk* (Mr. Selby), and, in the course of her labours, accidentally breaks a favourite drawing-room clock. Almost beside herself with terror lest her mishap should be discovered, she calls in a clockmaker to repair the damage; but, while talking with him, some one knocks, and she hastily thrusts him into her mistress's bedroom to prevent his being seen. The major comes in, and hearing a man's footstep in his wife's room, the door of which is locked, he immediately becomes violently jealous, and accusing *Betsy* of "knowing all about it," flings down her wages and orders her to leave the house. She, of course, thinks he is referring to the clock; and, on being discharged, grows immensely indignant and refuses to take her wages, saying that it may go towards the damages. Finally, an explanation ensues, and *Betty* remains with double wages. Mrs. Keeley's clever acting made this slight piece thoroughly effective and successful.—In the other farce, "I'll tell your Wife," *Paul* (Mr. Leigh Murray), who is about to marry the daughter of *Dr. Bile* (Mr. Keeley), accidentally meets his father-in-law at an hotel, to which each of them has taken a fair friend to dinner, and their mutual consternation and endeavours to get rid of each other are exceedingly humorous. Of course, each finds the other out; upon which *Dr. Bile* declares, "You shan't have my daughter," and *Paul* rejoins, "I'll tell your Wife." After a time, however, they agree to keep each other's secret, and the ladies are released from the rooms in which they had been locked; when, to the astonishment of the gentlemen, they prove to be Mrs. *Bile* and her daughter, who are, of course, vociferously indignant at the conduct of husband and lover, but are appeased by *Paul's* assurance that it was a plan on the part of himself and the doctor to give them a surprise. This piece was hardly so successful as "Betty Martin," but the two have been played on alternate nights through the week.

**SADLER'S WELLS.**—Mr. Phelps took his benefit on Wednesday, and the season closes to-night. He played *Walsey* in Shakespeare's "Henry VIII.," and *Balthie Nicol Jarvie* in "Rob Roy." The house was crowded in every part. A new season commences on Monday, under the direction of Mr. Austin, jun., and Mr. Wright is engaged for a limited number of nights.

**PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.**—The first concert of the season took place on Monday at the Hanover Square Rooms, and from the circumstance of Herr Wagner



COFFEE POT, FROM MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.



CUP, FROM MARLBOROUGH HOUSE.

occupying the post so long held by M. Costa, excited more than usual interest. There seems to be nothing at present known of the reasons which induced M. Costa to resign a position which nine years ago he was so anxious to attain, and which he has since filled with so much credit to himself and advantage to the society; but we cannot help feeling that some explanation is due both to the subscribers and to M. Costa himself. His successor, Herr Wagner, is well known as one of the heads of the young Germany school of music, and his selection by the directors has given rise to considerable discussion. Of his efficiency as a conductor this first concert does not enable us to speak with confidence. As a whole, the performance was scarcely so good as usual; but this may be naturally accounted for by his not yet having got the orchestra in hand, and old traditions would interfere with his intentions, especially if, as seems probable, there was sometimes a doubt of his meaning. He is unquestionably intelligent and energetic, and showed his intimacy with the music by the dangerous experiment of conducting without a score. The instrumental pieces were mostly old favourites: Haydn's Grand Sinfonia No. 7, one of the best of the twelve, which went very well; Beethoven's magnificent sinfonia "Eroica," Mendels-



HOUSE OF PETER THE GREAT.—FROM AN ORIGINAL SKETCH. (See page 92.)

The second and third of the AFTERNOON CONCERTS, consisting of selections from the concerted music of Sir H. R. Bishop, were given on Saturday (the 10th) and Tuesday, and the fourth and last takes place to-day. The programmes of the four concerts have not been entirely different, but each has been varied by the introduction of some novelties, and a chorus has been added to the executive. The singing, generally speaking, has been excellent; but, as we feared would be the case, the boys, effective as their voices are in proper place, have marred the effect of some of the pieces written for women. The attendance increased as the concerts became more widely known; and we are glad to see that their success has led Mr. Mitchell to announce an evening concert of the same character, at Exeter-hall, on the 27th, with a chorus of 200 voices, and some songs by Mr. Sims Reeves.

We have only space for the bare announcement that the third of Mr. Ellis's WINTER EVENINGS was held at Willis's Rooms, on Thursday; and that Mr. C. Salaman delivered the first of his two MUSICAL LECTURES, at the Hanover Square Rooms, on the same evening. We shall return to both next week.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF MUSICIANS.—The 107th anniversary festival of this Society was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, the



LORD CARLISLE, THE NEW LORD LIEUTENANT OF IRELAND.



SIR EDMUND LYONS.

solon's overture to the "Fables of Æsop," and Mozart's to the "Zauberflöte," and Spohr's Dramatic Concerto, finely played by Ernst. The vocal music consisted of Mozart's lovely trio "Soave sia il vento," from "Così fan tutti;" Weber's scena, "Ocean, thou mighty monster," from "Oberon," gloriously sung by Madame Clara Novello; and a duet, sung by Madame and Mr. Weiss, from Marschner's "Der Vampyr."

Mr. Sterndale Bennett commenced a series of three Concerts of classical pianoforte music, on Tuesday evening at the Hanover Square Rooms, assisted by Messrs. Sainfon, Dando, Piatti, and Reynolds; with Madame Clara Novello as vocalist. The programme consisted of a graceful and elegant Quintet of Hummel's (Op. 87), for pianoforte, violin, violoncello, and contra basso; the first movement of which, allegro, was especially charming; a "Circle of Songs" (Lieder Kreis, Op. 98), by Beethoven; three Solos for the pianoforte; a Lesson in D minor, by Scarlatti; an Air with variations, by Handel; and one of Bach's 48 Fugues, excellently played, and the old-fashioned character of which made a pleasant variety; Beethoven's admirable Duo in G minor (Op. 5) for pianoforte and violoncello; a Sonata in B flat, by Mozart, for pianoforte and violin, full of sweetest melody; two new songs of Mr. Bennett's, "Julian Love," the words by Barry Cornwall, slight, but pretty, which won an encore; and "Winters Glee," the words by John Clare, a beautiful song; and three Solo pieces, for the pianoforte from Mr. Bennett's own compositions, concluded a very agreeable concert. Mr. Bennett admirably performed an arduous evening's undertaking; presiding at the pianoforte at every piece without exception that was executed. His exertions merited and received the hearty applause of an audience that completely filled the large room.



STATUETTE OF THE QUEEN: ART UNION OF LONDON.

8th. From the report we learn that there are 11 members, 45 widows, and 27 children, supported by the Society, which has property producing rather more £1800 a-year, the rest of its resources being derived from subscriptions and donations. A miscellaneous selection of music was performed by a number of our best-known artists, the most noticeable of which was a solo, or rather two solos, by Ernst, deservedly a favourite here, not only for his unequalled playing but for his liberal subscription. The attendance was numerous, and about £100 were collected.

SIGNOR GAETANO BRAZA, has been delighting the Parisians by his performance on the violoncello. He is said to produce an exquisite quality of tone, and to bring out in an extraordinary manner the local qualities of his instrument.

# ART-UNION OF LONDON, 44, WEST STRAND.

The Subscription List will close in a few Days.

Every Subscriber of One Guinea will be entitled to an impression of a plate by J. T. Willmore, A.R.A., after J. J. Chalon, R.A.,

## "A WATER-PARTY."

In addition to a Quarto Volume of Thirty Wood Engravings, illustrating Byron's

## "CHILDE HAROLD";

besides a chance in the distribution of Prizes, which include the right to select a Work of Art from the Public Exhibitions.

Statuettes in Bronze and Porcelain, Silver Medals, and Proof Lithographs.

GEORGE GOWIN, } Honorary  
LEWIS POOCK, } Secretaries.

March 17, 1855.

## OUR GOSSIP.

The corridor of the House of Commons has been the rendezvous for any one craving for excitement; a great actor's farewell, a choice singer's debut, an election commitment, a contested will, bill, never drew more curious and yet pushing crowds than the Committee of the Crimean Inquiry. Roebuck proves that a poor chairman, he cross-questions feebly, and his interrogations are easily evaded. Layard alone is thoroughly up to his work. Of the witnesses, Sir De la Haye and Sir Charles Trevelyan will wriggle out of responsibility as far as possible.

Sir William Burnett is to retire from the medical administration of the navy; what will happen, if the Baltic fleet go into action, is lamentable to reflect upon, since the united resolution proclaimed by the students of the London hospitals not to accept service with the present treatment of assistant-surgeons, will leave the ships at the mercy of the surgeon and inexperienced boys for his mates. The Government, it is expected, will be obliged to take their tone from the general meeting of medical students, on the 16th, in St. Martin's Hall.

Sir J. C. McVilliers the representative of the East India Company at the Board of the Seinde Railway, which is strongly supported, both at home and abroad.

The first edition of Mr. Sidney Goldolphin Osborne's "Notes on Scutari and the Hospitals," though not yet published, may be considered as fairly sold off, the applications for it have been incessant; none are to be received after the 19th.

The Board of Trade have officially notified to exhibitors of the British section of the Paris Exposition, the appointment of Mr. Henry Cole, C.B., as superintendent over the entire arrangement. That gentleman is to leave Paris at the House in the Rue du Cirque, taken as temporary offices.

Amongst the public petitions to the "House" is one very notable from Archibald White, of Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, who states that "he has offered to demonstrate to the Government the means whereby our soldiers may always sleep dry, even without tents or huts; that such means are simple, light, portable, and inexpensive, may be unpacked and put up for use in a few minutes at night, and again in a few minutes in the morning taken down and repacked; that such means may be carried or removed to another encamping ground, and enough of which for 1,000 men may be carried in two waggons, or perhaps in one; that he has also offered to demonstrate means whereby the soldiers may be supplied with dry clothes; and he complains that his offers have not been accepted, and he begs that opportunity may be afforded him of showing that such means are proper and efficient."

There is a waterproof tent, weighing only 22 lbs., and capable of "accommodating eight sleepers," which will pack into 8-inch diameter and 27 inches in length, brought before the Horse Guards, by Messrs Maynard and Harris.

Myerbeer's "L'Etrole du Nord" is to be one of the earliest novelties of the season at the Royal Italian Opera, with Madame Bosio as Catherine, Mlle. Maras as Francesca, Herr Fornes as Peter the Great, and Lablache as the Corsair.

The Peninsula and Oriental Company are building three more new steamers, to be called the *Pera*, *Cintra*, and *Ava*. They will then have 49 steamers. Eight of their ships are already in the Government transport service.

## ACCIDENTS AND OFFENCES.

A chimney-sweeper, named *Topham*, has been accused at the York assizes of the manslaughter of his son, aged 8 years, whom he had sent up the chimney of an hotel at Smith. The poor little fellow attempted to descend, but could not get below the first story. Exertions, at first ineffectual, were made to extricate him: in the course of ten minutes he was found dead from suffocation.

On the 10th, at Lincoln Assizes, Mrs. Russell, a widow of advanced age, sued a farmer, named *Whitehead*, aged 63, and of considerable property, for a breach of promise of marriage. Certain letters submitted on behalf of the plaintiff, for graphic variety and humour, are unsurpassable. The first ran thus—

WAINFLEW, Jan. 19, 184—. My dear Mrs. Russell—I will never marry no woman upon the best of terms. You see I can assure you that if you shall join with me at 11 I am worth and be my lawful wife because you are a prudent and I do not upon you and if I live I will make you my lawful wife and be my own master and be very rich with you, but I will make you man and so don't think no more about it know I have promised you this for I do love you a love all women.

JESSE WHITEHEAD.

This was followed by a letter in February containing these expressions—

I love Money too well to deserve one that I do not on you know that we must wait 2 years I never did not will back my promise.

In April, however, the elderly suitor was married to another widow of the age of 54, and in the following December he wrote, according to the plaintiff's case, a singular letter, which more important matter compels us to omit.

## POSTSCRIPT.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY, MARCH 15.

On the third reading of the Mutiny Bill, Lord PANMURE, in answer to a question by Earl GREY, explained the principle upon which commissions in the army are now granted. He found that commissions were given without purchase to some of those passing the highest examinations at Sandhurst Military College, to the sons of distinguished officers, and also occasionally to the sons of poor and deserving officers, and the sons of clergymen with large families. It was true that three classes being now entirely exhausted, commissions had been given to other persons, but he knew of nothing to lead them to suppose that any had been given unfairly. He was as anxious as any one to see one general principle carried out.

Earl GREY complained especially that commissions were in some cases given, and in others sold, to parties having equal claims. This could not but cause dissatisfaction. He would have the prices of commissions reduced.

Lord MALMESBURY complained of breach of faith towards militia recruits, who had been in many cases detained beyond the 28 days fixed by Government.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

Mr. L. KINCHIN moved for leave to bring in a bill for the better settling of the real estates of intestates. He proposed, by a simple and short act, to apply one uniform law to all the property of all persons dying intestate, so that it should make for them the same just will with reference to their landed property as the present law now did where the property was personal. He anticipated and replied to objections to the proposed alteration, and read several cases of ex-

treme hardship, in which, through ignorance or accident, the existing law regulating the descent of real property had defeated the avowed intentions of intestates. The law of succession to real property, he contended, was an artificial system, imposed by conquerors upon a subjugated nation.

The motion was seconded by Mr. MASSY, who observed that it proposed to introduce a new law, but merely to extend the provisions of a law which had been in existence for nearly two centuries.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said the House of Commons would reply in the language of its ancestors of old, "*Nolumus leges Angliæ mutari*." The alteration struck at the rule of primogeniture; it would affect the great settlements of the country, and tend to the indefinite subdivision of landed property, while it was not required as regarded the lower classes.

The motion was supported by Mr. EWART and Mr. WARNER; but upon a division was negatived by 156 to 84.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS moved a resolution, that real property and impropriate tithes should be made to pay the same probate duty as is now payable on personal property.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER opposed the motion. Negatived by 84 to 61.

Mr. COBBETT moved for leave to bring in a bill to limit the hours of work of women and young persons in factories to ten in the day; and to provide the means of more perfectly inspecting factories. His object, he said, was to have the bill printed, to let it be circulated, and at some time after the recess the principle of the bill and its provisions might be discussed. In stating the nature of the bill, he related the history of the question, and the gradual introduction of the act of 1847. Its evasion by means of the shift system, and the act of 1850, which extended the time half-an-hour for five days in the week, and curtailed it one hour on Saturdays. This act, he said, according to the inspectors, was violated immediately after it passed, and from that time to the present complaints were made by them that the act was constantly infringed by the overworking of young people.

The reason why the question of this matter was that the Ten Hours' Bill, when properly carried out, had effected its object in improving the social and physical condition of the factory people, respecting which he read some instructive details. By the provisions of the bill he restored the ten hours, he gave factory inspectors further powers to enforce the law, and he placed a restriction upon the motive power, which was the best mode of preventing the evasion of the law, though to this he was aware there would be great opposition. Lastly, he proposed to give the county courts jurisdiction for the recovery of penalties.

Sir GEORGE GREY was against the introduction of the bill. Parliament should only interfere in such a matter under urgent necessity. Mr. COBBETT had shown no such necessity. It would be most prejudicial to have this question reopened. Mr. W. J. FOX replied that the bill was necessary, in the name of the unrepresented poor, asking the House to make its own acts effectual.—Mr. NEWDEGATE followed on the same side; Mr. ELLIOT, Mr. CROSSLEY, and Mr. WILKINSON in opposition.

Mr. BRIGGS said Mr. COBBETT proposed to disturb a question settled for two objects; one was to diminish the hours of labour by two in the week; the other to stop the steam-engine at a certain hour in the evening, so that not only no woman or child, but no grown-up man should work beyond that hour. Mr. BRIGGS urged that for that two hours it was not worth while to interrupt the present harmony, and he denied that there was the slightest necessity for making Parliament to reopen the question.

Lord PALMERSTON denied that the law had been so grossly violated as to require an alteration. There was a broad distinction between restrictions regarding women and children and restrictions as to adult males.

After a reply from Mr. COBBETT, the House divided upon his motion, which was negatived by 109 to 101.

Mr. T. DUNCOMBE moved an address for copies of any despatches or correspondence between Lord Raglan and the Minister for War, in relation to the wants of the Army in the Crimea. Motion negatived.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that on Monday, abandoning the Newspaper Stamp Bill of Mr. Gladstone, he should bring in resolutions of his own, as it would be more regular to begin de novo.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

Lord ALBEMARLE moved for returns connected with the mode employed in shipping horses for the cavalry to the East, his object being to persuade Lord PANMURE to abandon the present and to introduce the Hull system.—Lord LEICESTER urged on the Government the absolute necessity of employing steam transport for this purpose instead of sailing vessels, on board which serious losses had occurred, while on board steam vessels they had been trifling.—The Duke of CAMBRIDGE joined in the discussion; and Lord PANMURE admitted that steam was preferable to sailing transports for the carriage of horses, especially where the distance was great.—Lord ALBEMARLE then withdrew his motion, and the matter dropped.

The Criminal Justice Bill was read a third time and passed.

The Royal assent was given, by commission, to the Exchequer Bills Bill (£17,183,000); the Common Law Procedure (Ireland) Bill; the Mutiny, and other bills.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was not his intention to bring forward the Financial Statement before Easter.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON moved for leave to bring in a bill on the subject of National Education. He quoted the evidence of the Duke of Cambridge as showing the improvement that had taken place in the condition of the common soldier through the diffusion of education in the army. He felt justified in bringing forward the subject, in as much as Lord John Russell's measure, of last year, had never reached a second reading; and the Manchester and Salford Bill had been turned out of the House on what he must call a paltry quibble. He had, therefore, given notice of the present measure, and the day following Lord John Russell had obtained leave to introduce a bill on the same subject. He thought the Committee of Council had become too important; the grants had been raised from £20,000 in 1822 to £300,000 in the present year, and there ought to be a minister of education responsible for the ex-

penditure of that sum. Moreover, the pupil teachers were overtrained, while two-thirds of them did not become teachers, but went into other professions, so that the public money in their case was wasted. Another mistake was that the funds were, by the operation of the Council minutes, applied to the rich districts instead of the poor. He admitted that the numbers at school had increased over the whole country, though in certain parts—particularly instance York and Liverpool—were still at retrograde within the last 20 years. But there were still a million of children who ought to be receiving education, who were not at school, and the education received by the rest was far from satisfactory. The first point of his bill was in his mind one of the most doubtful, but it was a permissive bill. The areas in which he proposed the measure to work were, in corporate towns, the limits of the municipalities—in country districts, the poor-law unions. If these districts should decide to avail themselves of the provisions of the act, the ratepayers would then proceed to elect an educational board, the qualification of a member of the board being a rating of £30 per annum, and all the magistrates of the district to be *ex-officio* members of the board. The board to have power to levy and expend an educational rate. He did so, because he was profoundly convinced the voluntary system would not educate the people. But whenever a locality was assessed, the public funds should contribute in a fixed proportion. He would propose further, that all the new schools erected under this bill should be wholly free. But he would not interfere with existing schools, leaving it to the parents with them to come under the provisions of the act.

With regard to religious education, he proposed that all schools now recognised by the Council, should be allowed to claim the benefits of this bill, provided that Church schools received dissenting children, and that dissenting schools received Church children, without forcing upon them religious creeds they did not hold.

With respect to new schools, he would provide that they should be every case teach the religious opinions of the majority of the people where the school was erected, subjected of course to the general rule, that the children of the minority should neither be excluded nor their opinions interfered with.—Mr. HADFIELD complained that the right hon. Baronet had not taken into account the Sunday schools.—Lord STANLEY highly approved of the bill, and he recommended that every measure now before the House should be referred to a school committee. Whatever the merits of the secular system, he felt sure it could not work in England.—Sir GEORGE GREY, on behalf of the Government cordially consented to the introduction of the measure. He was sure the country was not prepared for a system of compulsory education. He defended the Committee of Council, and adduced instances in which large grants had been made to the poorer districts in London.

Lord ROBERT CEIL opposed the bill, as not differing appreciably from the secular system.—Mr. W. J. FOX particularly admired the provision that the schools should be free, and reiterated the objections he had so often urged against making religion an indispensable element of education.

Mr. M. GIBSON announced that he would introduce a bill for secular free schools, so that the House might consider all the various schemes together.—After a few words from Mr. ALDERLEY and Lord PALMERSTON, leave was given to bring in the bill.

Sir BENJAMIN HALL then moved for leave to introduce a bill for the better local management of the metropolis. The area of the metropolis, for the purposes of this bill, he proposed to make the Registrar-General's district, extending from Hampstead in the north to Wandsworth in the south, and from Stepney in the east to Chelsea in the west. He showed that no two parishes were governed alike, and described, to the amusement of the House, the number and nature of the different boards (some of them having conflicting jurisdictions) in certain large metropolitan districts, and the disproportionate salaries paid to officers, in comparison with their functions, in some of the great thoroughfares. He specified other instances of local management, or rather mismanagement, and gave a summary of the results of his inquiries into the local government of the metropolis, whence it appeared that the commissioners were no fewer than nearly 15,000, besides bodies possessing large independent powers of taxation, their officers receiving high salaries, though, in the great instances, considered, they had neglected their duties. The main features of the bill for remedying existing evils were—the distribution of the metropolis into municipal districts, the consolidation of the existing local boards, and the introduction of a system of local government by boards elected by the ratepayers, the functions of which boards he enumerated; the whole to be placed under a Metropolitan Board of Works, the constitution of which board (to consist of 43 members), he described; the president to be selected by the Secretary of State from three persons proposed by the board. The chairman would receive a salary of £1500 a year; the other members to serve gratuitously. The board would have power to levy a general improvement rate, and to make the great intercepting sewers. The City of London would be dealt with under a future bill. He proposed to take the duties from the corporation and to transfer them to the Metropolitan Board of Works, which would have power over the sewage of the metropolis, and the purification of the Thames. On a future occasion he would propose an inquiry into the water supply of the metropolis.—Mr. FITZROY strongly objected to leaving the main drainage of the metropolis to the delegates of the parochial ratepayers.

Mr. MONTAGUE defended the bill, and read the principles of it, reserving himself on the details.—Lord ERINGTON offered objections to some details of the bill.—After a few words from Lord PALMERSTON and Mr. STUART WORTLEY, leave was given to bring in the bill. The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned.

## LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

(FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE OF LAST NIGHT.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, MARCH 16, 1855.—Lord PANMURE has this day received a despatch and its enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his lordship by Field-Marshal the Lord Raglan, G.C.B.:—

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, MARCH 3, 1855.—My Lord,—Some more ships are said to have been sunk since I wrote to your lordship on the 27th. I am not certain of this; but, according to my observation, the new barrier across the harbour appeared yesterday

evening to have been extended beyond the point at which I had seen it two days before.

The enemy busily occupied in establishing a work considerably nearer the French batteries on the extreme right than that which was attacked by our allies on the morning of the 24th.

The enemy seem to be increasing their force in the neighbourhood of Sebastopol, both to the northward and upon the Tchernaya. The railway continues to progress satisfactorily, and we already make considerable use of it in the conveyance of stores, hutting materials, &c., as far as Kadiok; and the electric telegraph is completed between that village and my head-quarters.

The weather has again become extremely cold, and there was a fall of snow yesterday, and some little this morning.

I enclose a return of casualties to the 1st instant, inclusive. The Lord Panmure, &c. &c. I have, &c., RAGLANS.

VIENNA, FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 16.—The only thing known of yesterday's Conference is, that it began with a pacific speech on the part of Count Buol.

PARIS, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 8.30 A.M.—The *Moniteur* announces that General de Wedell was received yesterday by the Emperor.

VIENNA, THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 15.—The *Oesterreichische Correspondenz* publishes Constantinople news of the 8th of March.

Omur Pasha is arming the Tartars with the weapons taken from the Russians.

During the affair of the night of the 23rd of February (the attack on the redoubt by the French), the Zouaves lost 340 men, eight of whom were officers. General Monet was wounded in both arms.

New regulations relative to the Tanzimat have been issued. The Balaklava railroad will be completed on the 15th inst.

(BY INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH VIA THE HAGUE.)

VIENNA, MARCH 15.—The first meeting of the Congress took place this day. There were present one French, two Ottoman, two English, and two Austrian plenipotentiaries. The discussion on the general principles of the basis of the negotiation terminated satisfactorily.

Intelligence had arrived at Constantinople from the Crimea up to the 8th instant. Nothing important up to that date had occurred.

General Forey had been recalled to France. Lord Stratford de Redcliffe was seriously indisposed.

MARSEILLE, MARCH 14.—The *Gauche* has arrived, having left Constantinople on the 5th inst.

The number of deaths at Scutari was greatly diminished. At Balaklava, on the 3rd, the weather was fine but cold.

The preparations for the bombardment were going on. Three miles of the railway were in use for transport.

The health of the troops was much improved.

MADRID, MARCH 13.—The Cortes, yesterday, approved the financial plans of Senor Madoz, by 200 votes to 12.

#### THE LATE EMPEROR'S LAST MOMENTS.

The following is the substance of the account of the Tsar's last moments. It bears date *St. Petersburg, March 3*, and evidently proceeds from a Russian or philo-Russian source:—

His Majesty had been for some time violently affected with *grippe*. About the 18th of February his body physician, Dr. Mandt, begged for permission to call in other physicians. The Emperor took this very lightly, and turned it off with a joke, but consented that the body-physician, Dr. Karell, should also be consulted. The Emperor became worse by degrees from want of sleep and increased cough, with plentiful expectoration, so that the physicians, on the 22nd, begged His Majesty would keep his room.

The Emperor would not hear a word of it; on which one of the physicians said to him, "No medical man in the whole army would allow any soldier as well as your Majesty to leave the hospital, for he would be sure that his patient would soon come in again worse." The Emperor answered, "You have done your duty, gentlemen, and I thank you, and now I will do mine;" and on this he got into his sledge in rather cold weather, and drove to the Exercising House to see some men of the Infantry of the Guard, that were about to march into Lithuania to make up the complement of the regiments there.

This was the last occasion on which the Emperor was seen in public. He was evidently very unwell, coughed violently, expectorated excessively, and said as he went away, "I am in a perfect bath (of perspiration)," although it was anything but warm in the exercising house. The Emperor then drove to Prince Dolgorouki, the Minister of War, who was ill, cautioned him not to go out too soon, and then returned to the Winter Palace. In the evening he was present at the prayers for the first week of Lent, stayed some time with the Empress, but complained of being cold, and kept his cloak on in the room.

From that evening the Emperor did not quit his little study. It was there, on 23rd February, that he received his Fliegel Adjutant Colonel von Tettenborn, and despatched him to Sebastopol; all the while lying on the sofa, and covered up with his cloak. After that His Majesty transferred all business into the hands of the Grand Duke Alexander. The subsequent details are not in harmony with the serious nature of the event, but they may suit the last hours of a Nicholas.

From Feb. 24 to 27, all that the public knew of the Emperor was, "he does not leave his bed, as he is somewhat feverish; the cough is getting less and less hard," &c.

During the whole time he was ill the Emperor lay only on his camp bed, i. e., on a casing of Russia leather filled with hay, a bolster of the same kind, and with a blanket and his cloak over him.

On the night of Feb. 28 he became decidedly worse. The physicians apprehended a paralysis of the lungs. On the evening of March 1 they despaired of his recovery.

The Empress and the Crown Prince begged him, at the request of the physicians, to take the sacrament. It was not till then that the Emperor seems to have recognized the real danger of his state; but hardly any shock is stated to have been noticeable in him.

In the night from the 1st to the 2nd, Dr. Mandt informed the Emperor of his dangerous state, and that more particularly his lungs were violently affected. He replied very calmly, "And so you think that I am liable to a paralysis of the lungs?" "Such a result is very possible," was the reply.

The Emperor then in a calm and collected manner took the sacrament, took leave of the Empress, their children and grandchildren, kissed each, and blessed each one, with a firm voice, and then retained only the Empress and the Crown Prince with him. [This was about 4 o'clock in the morning.]

The Emperor said subsequently to the Empress, "Do go now and take a little rest, I beg of you." She answered, "Let me remain with you; I would I could depart with you, if it were only possible." To this the Emperor replied, "No, you must remain here on earth. Take care of your health, so that you may be the centre of the whole family. Go now; I will send for you when the moment approaches."

The Empress could not do otherwise than obey this distinct expression of the Emperor's will, and left the room.

The Emperor then sent for Graf Orloff, Graf Adlerberg, and Prince Dolgorouki, thanked them for their fidelity and bade them farewell. Subsequently, the Emperor had all the servants immediately about him sent in, thanked them for their services, blessed them, and took leave of them: he was, it is said, very much affected. Last of all the Kammerfrau von Rohrbach was sent for. The Emperor thanked her for the fidelity she had always shown the Empress, for the care with which she had always tended her in sickness, begged her never to quit the Empress, and ended with, "And remember me kindly at Peterhof, that I'm so fond of." The Emperor pressed Dr. Karell's hand, and said to him, "It is no fault of yours."

Whilst the Emperor's father confessor was speaking with him, he took the Empress's hand and put it into the priest's, as if he would confide the Empress to the ecclesiastic.

After this the Emperor lost his speech for a while, during which time he was engaged in prayer, and crossed himself repeatedly. He subsequently regained his voice, and spoke from time to time up to his decease, which took place without a struggle in the presence of the whole family, March 2, at ten minutes past midnight.

Almost the last articulate words that the Emperor spoke were "Dites à Fritz (King of Prussia) de rester toujours le même pour la Russie, et de ne pas oublier les paroles de papa" (the late King of Prussia).

The *Assemblée Nationale* states, on the faith of letters from St. Petersburg, that the body of the Emperor Nicholas is exposed to public view in a *chapelle ardente*. The face of the Emperor is said to be uncovered, and the reports of the decomposition of the body are stated to be unfounded.

The last words (says the *Débats*) which the Emperor Nicholas addressed to the Empress were a message to her brother the King of Prussia. He charged her to tell the King that he was not angry with him on account of the policy of neutrality and mediation he had adopted in the interest of Prussia, but that he wished him to retain his kind feelings towards Russia, and not to forget the last advice of his father. The Emperor Nicholas alluded to certain recommendations made by Frederick William III., father of the present King, and inserted in his will. The late King, addressing himself directly to his son, says:—

"Beware, my dear Frederick, of that mania for innovations which has become so general; beware of those numerous theories actually existing, and which cannot be put into practice; but beware also of falling into another extreme, which might prove as fatal—I mean an exclusive predilection for ancient institutions. It is only by avoiding those two reefs that you can introduce really useful reforms. Remain, as far as possible, on good terms with the European Powers; have all things, may Prussia, Russia, and Austria never be separated—their union is the safeguard of the peace of Europe."

Prince Charles of Prussia is charged, if we are rightly informed, to inform the Emperor Alexander and the Empress-Dowager that the King still entertains the same sentiments—that his most ardent wish is to see peace restored, that he does not despair of it, but that it cannot be obtained unless Russia consents to make certain concessions.

## LITERATURE.

### THE KING'S TEMPTATION.

Know ye what deeds are doing?

In the home of the ancient creed?

Hearken! and pray, that from ghostly guile,  
From the poor man's curse, and the churchman's smile,  
God save our land at need.

Thus spake the king in his council:—

"Our village priests lack bread.

"The Word they scatter, the loaf they halve,

"Give life to the poor. If the pastor starve

"How may the flock be fed?"

And the best in his realm's sad answer:—

"Convents we've many to spare;

"Bleated imposthumes of sloth and sin;

"Take thou the treasure that rusts therein

"For the poor man's priest to share."

Then was the king's heart gladden'd,

And the people shouted aloud.

For they love the pastor, who shares their toil,

And they grudge their tribute of wine and oil

To the lary locust-cloud.

The Pope sate droning and dreaming,

Till he heard the people's cry.

Then he started awake, with an angry stare,

And his red-robed prelates sate wondering there,

As the mighty voice went by.

He clutch'd at his triple sceptre,

And mutter'd, with lifted hand—

"Thou that dividest the things of God,

"Low shalt thou grovel and kiss the rod,

"When the curse shall blight thy land.

The bride shall pine at the altar,

"And the corpse shall put by the grave;

"The babe unshin'd, and the dying unshriven,

"Shall cry against him who forbids them heaven,

"And steals what his fathers gave!

"Dream'st thou the papal thunder

"Shall never crash forth again?

"Lay but a hand on the sacred fold,

"And thou shalt rue the sway we hold

"O'er the terrors and sins of men!"

Yet spake the king in his council:—

"My spirit is no man's thrall;

"Shall flocks and pastors hunger and die,

"Scared by the ghost of an ancient lie,

"Give knowledge and bread to all."

Slow through the gilded palace

Came the clatter of sandal feet;

And a little child, in its meek, wane grace,

And a quiet matron, with wrinkled face,

Lay cold in the shrouding sheet.

Slow through the gilded palace

Came the shadow of cowl and gown;

And a mother pass'd from her babes at play,

And a young man waned in his pride away,

As the death-wave suck'd them down.

Whereso the quarry is stricken

The carrion vaults fly.

Cruel and cowardly, gaunt and keen,

Although in the morning sun one be seen,

Ere noon they blacken the sky.

Visit the sick, and the mourner;

So teacheth the sacred text.

And lo! to the king in his loveless home,

With cold sleek visage the comforters come,

Who for this world sell the next.

"The hand of the Lord is mighty!"

"So whisper'd he in a saintly tone;

"Take thou thy teaching with patient trust."

And the king bow'd down his head to the dust,

And utter'd a tearless moan.

"The Ark of the Lord is holy.

"Read through thy lesson; and know

"That he who touches the Ark shall die!"

And the king broke forth with a wrathful cry,

And answer'd with eyes aglow—

"Get ye behind me, tempters,

"Who trade in weakness and tears!

"Sore is the burden, and hard the fight;

"Yet will I stand for my people's right;

"And battle with priestly fears."

"Rather I'd pawn my kingdom,

"So I leave her spirit unsold;

"Rather I'd waste her with fire and sword,

"Than bend her neck to the noisome horde,

"Who barter their God for gold!"

"Truth is the light of nations;

"And light was ever your foe.

"How long will ye strive with the march of time?

"When teach the bigot to blush for crime,

"Or the slave for the tyrant's blow?"

So spake the king in his anger;

And the people shouted applause.

But the Pope sate under his plumed fan,

Conning and shaping the ancient ban,

And gnash'd at the righteous cause.

These be the deeds now doing

In the home of the papal creed.

Pray brothers, pray, that from ghostly guile,

From the poor man's curse, and the churchman's smile,

God save our land at need.

March 3, 1855. THEODOSIA TROLOPE.

It is not every bad odour that can be dispelled by a puff of

gunpowder. A Right Honorable Baronet was indignant

that a *reverse of a truth* was objected to him in Parliament

under the compendious form of *three letters*: not the *trium*

*litterarum* of Plautus. He was ready to "call out" the

denouncer, well knowing that he would have been called

back, and placed out of reach.

And now Sir C. Napier has clearly shown, by an article in

the *Times*, that the said Right Honorable has asserted what

is not fact.

It is according to the *Lives of Routine* that little men

should predominate over great, as was proved exemplarily

in the House of Commons, on March 8, in regard to Sir

Charles Napier. But never let any man be called a *coward*

because he happens to be insolent.

A coward! who dares call Sir James

Such inappropriate, ugly names?

Against the world will I uphold

No Briton ever was so bold.

Say, did he, minister of state,

One hour, one moment, hesitate

To open letters not his own,

Nor relevant to England's throne?

And did he not full surely know—

Nay, take good heed, they should lay low

Two youthful heads that Greece had crown'd,

Chaunting immortal hymns around,

I warrant you the brave Sir James

Would toss these hymn-books on the flames,

And start straitforward to defy

This scowling country's scornful cry.

Fame! what is fame?—a passing gust

That gathers up and scatters dust:

But cabinets are close and warm,

Where Shams may sit and fear no harm.

W. S. LONDON.



## THE LOST CHILD.

### CHAPTER THE SECOND.

**I**F little Nelly had slept long in the snow she would have died—even strong men die if they sleep in the cold—and a weary little girl would soon have perished; but suddenly she was roused by feeling a large hairy creature poking her with its cold wet nose, and a big Newfoundland dog sniffed round and round her, shaking her frock, and tumbling her about with his huge paws. And then he bounded away through the dark trees, barking and whining. As the dog rushed past, down the road to Gateshead, poor Joe Stanley and his companions turned up the lane into the common. They missed the little girl by about a hundred yards, and went far away on a search of what was close to their hands. If they had but known! If that Newfoundland dog had but been able to speak to them in human language, and tell them of the treasure lying in the heart of that dark wood—what sorrow would have been spared the poor father, what grief would have been saved the weeping sister! But there was no one to tell them; so Joe and his friends went away out of sight on to the common, and the big Newfoundland dog scampered down the road to Gateshead, till he overtook a gentleman on horseback riding towards the town. This was his master, Mr. Eversleigh—the doctor of Gateshead.

Mr. Eversleigh and his dog were very good friends. They understood each other quite as well as if they could talk together. The master had only to point and the dog knew what was to be done; the dog had only to fawn and whine and the master understood what he wanted. But to-night Mr. Eversleigh did not understand him. Ponto leapt up to the horse's neck, and scratched at his master's feet, so that he nearly tore a strip out of his leather boots, and whined and fretted, and growled, and snarled, and all but said, "Dear master, attend to me; I have something to say to you."

And if it had not been such a terrible night Mr. Eversleigh would have attended to him at once; but the snow was beating into his face, and he was anxious to get home to his wife and children, and he only thought Ponto troublesome, not intelligent. So he rode on, saying every now and then, "Down, Ponto, down dog! quiet!"

At last Ponto's prayers became so boisterous that his master was obliged to attend to them. The dog's delight was great when Mr. Eversleigh turned round and asked him what he wanted. He cowered, and frisked, and howled for anxiety and joy, and then he ran back through the cob-wood, calling to his master to follow him. When he came to where little Nelly had fallen asleep again, Mr. Eversleigh dismounted, and tied his chestnut to a tree, while he went into the wood, guided by Ponto.

After creeping through the dark wood, where it was impossible to see a yard before him, but guided always by the dog's voice, he came to the place where little Nelly lay. He saw the dog crouch down beside a little white heap, and putting out his hand he felt that it was a living child. He took the half-frozen little one in his arms, and, as well as he could, groped his way back to the road again: the dog licking his hand. The little one only moaned. She was just alive; no more. She was in no pain, for the cold had numbed her, but she was almost dying; and had she not been found then she must have died very soon.

Mr. Eversleigh wrapped his cloak round her, held her in his arms, pressed her close against his bosom to warm her, and setting spurs to his horse, he and Ponto galloped their swiftest till he came to Gateshead and his own house.

When he went in, Mrs. Eversleigh was quite frightened to see him bring in a little child dripping wet, for the snow had thawed upon her, so that her clothes were dripping all about her when they laid her before the fire. She thought little Nelly was dead; and, indeed, she looked so as she was laid out on the rug, with all her black hair lying, heavy with water, against her pale little face, her large eyes closed, and her mouth half open, and quite white. But they did all they could for her. They rubbed her, and gave her a little brandy-and-water, just dropping a few drops between her lips; and they took off her clothes and put her in nice dry warm flannels; and in a little while Nelly sighed and opened her large eyes for a moment.

They put her into a warm bed, it was Mary Eversleigh's cot, in the nursery before the fire; poured something down her throat, something that the doctor took out of his surgery; and Mrs. Eversleigh sat up with the little girl till past two o'clock, and then went to bed, only because Nelly was sleeping so quietly there was no use in sitting by her.

The next morning when little Nell awoke, and thought to see Susan and baby as usual, for she had forgotten all about last night, she screamed with surprise and terror to see a number of strange faces all peeping round her strange bed. She found herself in a room, oh, so beautifully furnished! It looked like a palace to the little cottage child. It had a beautiful paper on the walls, all flowers and green leaves; they were roses and convolvuluses, and every kind of garden flower; and they were so natural, she thought she might have picked them off with her tiny hands. And there were three or four cots, all trellis-work, painted green with gold knobs. And the coverlets were as white as snow, some of them as if stitched with pink; and the carpet was like gems, as if covered with large golden jewels on a blue ground; oh, so beautiful! And more than all this, Nelly saw a group of the most lovely children; there seemed about a dozen of them, but there were only seven, all clustered round her bed, looking at her with their large blue eyes, like angels come down from Heaven while she had slept.

They were so kind to her! When they saw that she was frightened, they drew off, away from her; and only one or two of the elder ones came near her, speaking very softly, and telling her not to be afraid. And then a sweet gentle lady came—that was Mrs. Eversleigh; and the little ones flocked to her, clinging round her and saying, "Mamma, she's awake and is crying!" which almost made some of the youngest of them cry too. The lady came to Nelly's cot. She was like that picture in the large church window, where a beautiful lady is kneeling down with a baby on her knee, and the cow behind her is rubbing her sleek head against the manger. She wore her hair in the same way, and had just the same large blue eyes. She came close to little Nelly, and spoke so sweetly, stretched out her arms and took her up from the cot as tenderly as if she had been her own mother. She took her on her knee, and sat down on a low rocking chair by the fire; and she kissed the little one, and caressed her fondly, and put back her thick black hair—all her children

had hair like gold—and asked her where she had come from? and what was her name? in a voice that sounded like church music, it was so sweet and rich.

Little Nelly told her, lisping; and then began to cry. For she was not so brave to-day as usual. She was weakened with yesterday's long walk, and the terror and cold of the dark cob-wood. Mrs. Eversleigh soon dried off the big tears from those great black eyes of hers, and kissed the lids, and told her not to be frightened any more; that if she was the child of Joe Stanley who worked at the park, and who lived at Well Close, she should soon be sent back again; for they knew her father very well.

Mr. Eversleigh came in as she said this. A tall handsome man that looked like the king in her old picture book, Nelly thought; and with him Ponto, the big Newfoundland dog. Ponto went up to Nelly wagging his tail and barking pleasantly; and the little ones clambered all about him. Charlie called him his war-horse, and would ride on his back round the nursery, and Freddy and Harry made him lie down while they both sat on him, and little Laura clung round his neck, and Rose wiped her eyes with his ears; and all of them hugged and kissed him, while Ponto stood like an old statue, and only wagged his tail and licked their little hands sometimes. "Oh! we'll soon find your father and Susan!" said Mr. Eversleigh, patting Nelly's cheek. "I am going that way to-day, and I'll call and tell him to come over for you."

And then Nelly was quite happy; and though strangely tired, not able even to sit up alone, but obliged to be nursed, to lie like a dead thing in Mrs. Eversleigh's arms, only looking quietly while the rest played about—she yet was happier than she had ever been in her life. For she was too little to think of the anxiety and sorrow her father and Susan had.

About the middle of the day the nursery door opened, and Susan, with baby in her arms, followed by father in his Sunday clothes, but looking very pale and poorly, came in. The poor father cried like a child when he took the little one up, and kissed her and blessed her. And then he knelt down and, with a sob as if his heart was bursting with gratitude, he lifted up his clasped hands and said, "God bless and God reward them!"

A short time after this the whole family came to live near the Eversleighs. They had a very pretty cottage just out of Gateshead; and Mrs. Eversleigh sent Susan and Nelly to school, and paid for a very nice woman, who had once been a servant of her own, but who was now married, to take baby all the day, so that Susan might have her learning. And they grew up brave, good, charming girls. Susan was soon one of the head girls of the school; and Nelly, though always independent—she was none the worse for that—had such a sweet, noble disposition that she was the pride and darling of all who knew her.

#### ANSWER TO LAST WEEK'S ACROSTIC CONUNDRUM.

- | A Fruit and a Flower. |           |        |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|
| 1. A Shell-fish.      | C r a b   | crab   |
| 2. An Adverb.         | U n t i l | until  |
| 3. A noted Sea King.  | R o l l o | Roll o |
| 4. Torn Clothes.      | R a g s   | rags   |
| 5. A Donkey.          | A s s     | ass    |
| 6. A Denial.          | N o       | no     |
| 7. A Nickname.        | T o m     | Tom    |